



# New paper's publication marks breakthrough in typesetting methods

By Mark Rossell

Next Tuesday sees the first publication of a newspaper which may alter the whole way papers are run in Britain, and finally allow the widespread introduction of the latest computer technology that the industry desperately needs.

*Motorcycling Weekly* will be a tabloid newspaper costing 30p, with a print run of 70,000 copies. Its pedigree is old and honourable: the original *Motorcycling Weekly* was bought by Victorian enthusiasts in the late nineteenth century.

The reborn weekly uses the very latest in technology and represents something of a revolution in British printing labour relations. The breakthrough is that its journalists will be inputting their words directly onto computer discs; thereafter the printers will add typesetting instructions before the material is turned into type.

For years newspaper proprietors have tried to introduce direct input by journalists, by which reporters and sub-editors write copy on computer terminals and then use the same terminals to send the finished product directly into a typesetting computer.

For years the move has been totally opposed by the print unions, led by the National Graphical Association, because it would tend to eliminate the need for the traditional printer.

Those newspapers which have gone ahead with computer

technology have had to bow to NGA insistence and allow NGA members to continue setting the type. Journalists use their terminals to write their stories on paper: this is then typed back into the computer by NGA men on separate terminals.

This extra step in the process considerably reduces the advantages of speed and low cost which the technology offers.

Only one sizable newspaper has gone the whole hog and introduced direct inputting, but at the cost of alienating members of all unions. The *Nottingham Evening Post*, which defied the NGA five years ago, has since been backed by the National Union of Journalists.

But *Motorcycling Weekly* has found a compromise unique in British newspapers. The 10 editorial staff type and edit all their own copy on Typewright Systems Computers and store it on floppy discs.

The NGA inserts the disc and keys in the final typesetting instructions to the computer - the work of seconds.

*Motorcycling Weekly* is owned by Coastal Press, whose managing director is Mr Bill Thomson. He said: "I am well aware that I am running into experimental areas. We have a rather unusual arrangement to say the least."

The secret of Mr Thomson's success is that he has worked all along with the NGA rather than

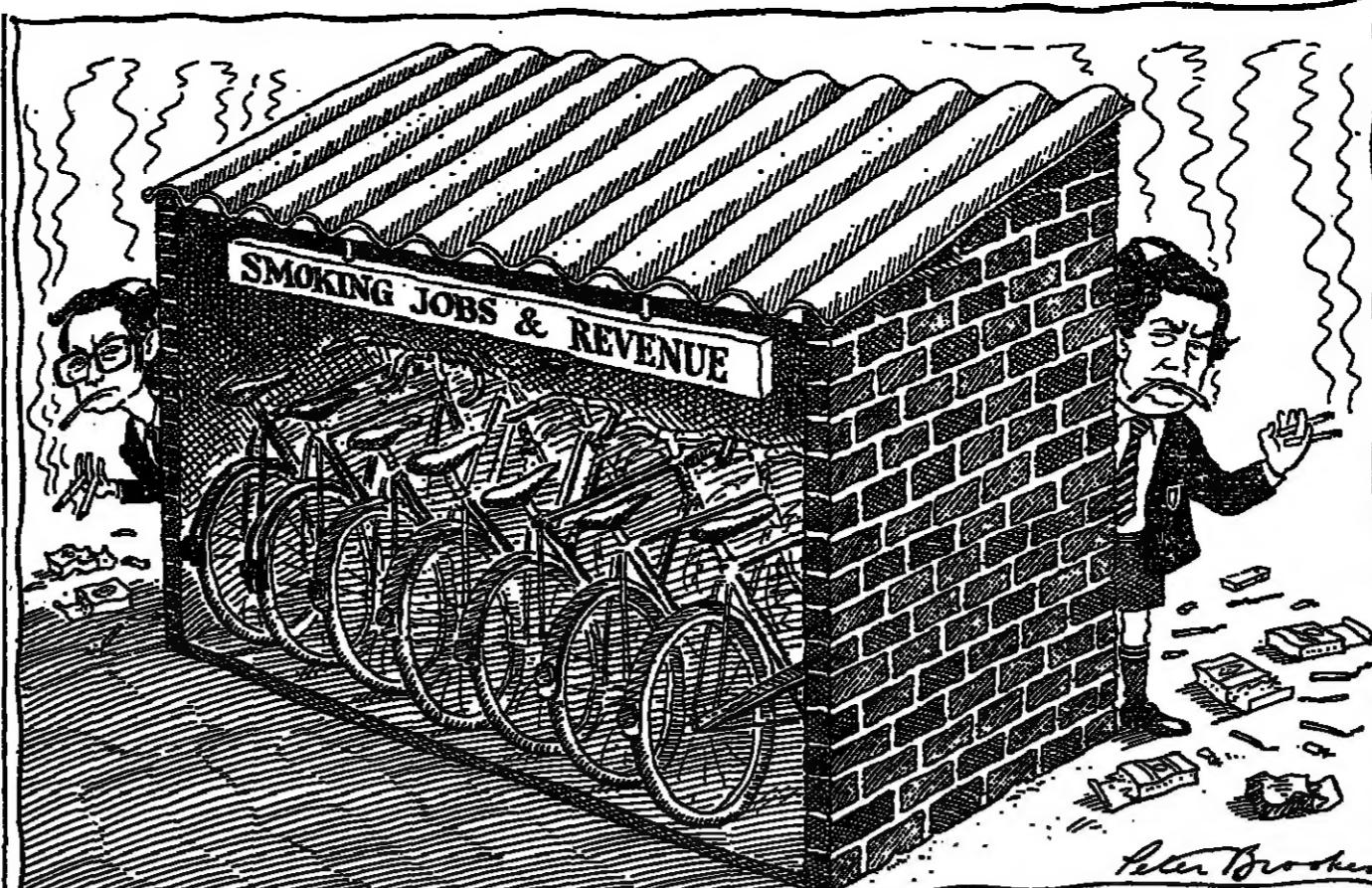
against it, and also that his employees have plenty of work on Coastal Press's many other publishing and printing projects.

Mr Thomson said: "The union wish to protect their jobs, and there are no union jobs at stake. I am in fact creating NGA jobs and other union jobs. I am not out to use new technology to destroy jobs."

"I have combined new technology - which is all British - to give us the efficiency factors that I believe will make publishing more profitable. It does not matter whether you are talking about a small magazine or a very large newspaper."

The lead shown by *Motorcycling Weekly* has arrived in the nick of time. All the signs are that the newspaper industry in Britain is heading for a showdown.

In June the provincial news-



## Ford threatened by twin disputes

By David Feltman, Labour Correspondent

A complete shutdown of the Ford Motor Company in the new year was threatened yesterday by senior shop stewards, who will recommend to mass meetings of the company's 44,500 manual workers over the next week that the strike should start on January 3.

The threat from blue collar staff coincides for the first time with a threat of action by white collar staff over the breakdown of talks on fresh pension provisions.

The first indications of whether the strike call to the manual workers will be supported are likely to come on Saturday at Swindon and on Sunday when the 3,500 hourly paid workers from the Halewood transmission and assembly plants on Merseyside have been called to a mass meeting.

Industry sources last night thought that there could be an overall vote for rejection of the company's final 7.5 per cent offer and in favour of a strike. But there is plenty of time for further negotiations.

A strike would mean that Ford's 24 plants would not reopen after the Christmas

holiday, which starts on December 23. Mr Ronald Todd, the union's chief negotiator, said: "If our members want to see advances on shorter working time, pensions and consolidation of supplements, they have to fight for it."

The unions, led by the Transport and General Workers' Union (TGWU) and the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, are not too concerned about the cash element, which gives increases of between £8.25 a week and £13.34.

It has not escaped their notice that, with fringe benefits included, the Vauxhall Motors settlement last month was worth about 8 per cent. Other improvements sought include an extra week's holiday.

The second dispute threat comes from three white collar sections of the unions after the breakdown yesterday of negotiations over pension improvements. The staff unions say they will close Ford's Warley headquarters in Essex, which is also the headquarters of Ford of Europe, so seriously affecting the company's operations on the Continent.

## 'Fines' on inefficient health authorities

By Nicholas Timmins, Health Service Correspondent

Health authorities that use high-value sites inefficiently for hospitals, clinics and offices will face financial penalties in future under plans circularized to all health authorities yesterday.

The Department of Health is asking all health authorities to review their holding of buildings and lands by next summer and to identify surplus and under-used property for sale so that the money raised can be used to give a better service to patients.

In England alone the National Health Service has more than 50,000 acres of land and 2,000 hospitals and in April this year 3,300 acres were awaiting sale.

In addition, health authorities will have to calculate a notional rent for each building and property based on its ratable value.

The notional rent will not be paid, but it will be used to compare how efficiently health authorities are using land and property.

Where an authority's notional rent is high compared to similar authorities in terms of the service it provides, action would be expected to reduce the notional rent, the circular says.

## MP attacks Kinnock job choice

By Our Political Reporter

A left-wing Labour MP is likely to be reported to the Shadow Cabinet after making personal criticisms of his colleagues and describing Mr Neil Kinnock's front-bench appointments as "mainly a settlement of debts and blackmail".

Mr Robert Clay, MP for Sunderland North, wrote in a report to his general management committee earlier this month that Mr Kinnock was surrounded by "unsympathetic spokespersons", partly by choice of the Parliamentary Labour Party and partly by his own choice.

He attacked most of the Labour MPs who took part in a recent Commons debate on shipbuilding as being more interested in being "knowledgeable" and "statesmanlike" than supporting the workers in the industry.

## Lee 'confused'

Bruce Lee, who is appealing against his 1981 conviction for the manslaughter of 26 people in 11 cases of arson, said in evidence at the Court of Appeal yesterday that he was "fired and confused" when he made his confessions to the police.

## Police stay cold

Newbury council, Berkshire, has refused permission to Thames Valley police guarding the perimeter fence at Greenham Common air base, to light braziers to keep themselves warm, under new by-laws due to come into force after December 11.

## Gerhardt case

The Prime Minister has refused to refer to the Security Commission in the case of Commodore Dieter Gerhardt, who is on trial for high treason in connection with spying in South Africa, and who had access to classified information while attending naval engineering courses in Britain between 1956 and 1964.

## Abbey rejected

The Government has rejected a plan to offer the eighteenth century Calke Abbey in Derbyshire in lieu of tax to pay death duties of £5m. The trustees had wanted to include in the offer substantial holdings to provide an endowment and source of capital for the future preservation of the Abbey.

## Man in the news

## Nalgo's pragmatist

By Barrie Clement  
Labour Reporter

Mr John Daly, who takes over as general secretary of the National and Local Government Officers' Association tomorrow, is described by fellow trade unionists as "an administrator rather than a class warrior".

Sir Peter Swinnerton-Dyer, chairman of the University Grants Committee, has written telling vice-chancellors about the decision.

The letter says: "We shall have no reserve left for distribution either in 1983-84 or 1984-85."

"As a result, although the committee will honour all eligible claims for redundancy compensation, and for the cost of some part-time engagement of staff, it will not be able to support any new proposals for academic innovation."

"The effect would be havoc in the construction industry," a spokesman said.

In allocating the housing investment programme, the Government has tried to steer towards councils with a heavy commitment to grants for home improvement, to cushion a recently announced reduction in government subsidies for such grants.

Yesterday's announcement by Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, said that housing associations can expect £687m, compared with £690m.

In total, local authorities in England get a net provision for housing and improvement of £1,028m but the Government is assuming that over £2,500m will be spent once councils add their receipts from the sale of council houses.

The study, published in the current issue of *Educational Research*, the journal of the National Foundation for Educational Research, shows that simple "behavioural modification" works by increasing academic success.

*Educational Research*, Vol 25, No 3, November 1983 (Carfax Publishing Company, PO Box 25, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX1 4JW).

The two semi-final matches in the Acorn Computers World Chess Championship Candidates series appear to be going in favour of the veterans.

So when, on move 31, Garry Kasparov, at 20, less than half his opponent's age, had black against Viktor Korchnoi in the second game of their match, that he was prepared to take risks was shown by the fact that he played the Tarrasch Defence to the Queen's Pawn, a defence which gains free play for Black's pieces at the expense of weakening the basic pawn structure, in particular the Queen's Pawn.

Korchnoi treated the opening in a fluent, brisk style. By the time the middle game was reached, Kasparov had taken about half an hour more than his opponent.

So when, on move 31,

Korchnoi offered him a draw, the young grandmaster had little hesitation in accepting. So Korchnoi leads in the match by the score of 1½-½.

The adjourned first game of the match between Vassily Smyslov and Zoltan Ribli was resumed in a position where Smyslov had all the attacking chances.

Smyslov cleverly engineered a position which Ribli's King

was continually threatened by mating attacks. Ribli resigned



Mr Daly: "Administrator, not class warrior"

will have difficulty in implementing some of the more left-wing resolutions of the annual conference. "I am essentially a pragmatist," he says.

His predecessor, Mr Drain felt more than a little discomfited in being the head of an organization which supported the Palestine Liberation Organization. Mr Daly will have similar problems.

Mr Daly has a seat on the TUC General Council and has consistently supported the continuation of a dialogue with the Government.

## Chess semi-finals seem to favour veterans

By Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent

The hopelessness struggle on the 65th move.

So the former world champion Smyslov leads in his match against Ribli by 1-0.

Second game: White Korchnoi, Black Kasparov, Q-P Gambit Decided Tarrasch Defence.

First game (continued): White Smyslov, Black Ribli, Q-P Queen's Indian Defence

4 P-K4 P-Q4 17 Q-P4 Q-N2

3 N-CB4 P-QB4 18 Q-P4 Q-R1

4 P-QP4 P-KP4 19 P-B2 P-K4

5 P-KN3 P-B3 20 P-B3 R-B2

6 P-B2 P-B2 21 P-B3 R-B2

7 P-KN3 P-B3 22 P-B3 R-B2

8 P-B2 P-B2 23 B-N5 P-Q2

9 P-B2 P-B2 24 B-N5 N-R4

10 P-KN3 P-B2 25 B-N5 N-R4

11 P-B2 P-B2 26 R-B1 P-Q2

12 P-B2 P-B2 27 R-B1 P-Q2

13 Q-N3 P-Q2 28 R-B1 P-Q2

14 N-B1 P-B2 29 R-B1 P-Q2

15 Q-P-Q1 P-B2 30 R-B1 P-Q2

16 B-B1 K-R1 31 R-B1 P-Q2

17 P-B2 P-B2 32 R-B1 P-Q2

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41 P-K4 P-Q4 56 R-B1 P-Q2

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44 P-B3 P-B3 59 R-B1 P-Q2

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Safe aerosol

An aerosol propelled by compressed air rather than liquefied gas, which has been developed in Switzerland and is neither harmful to the environment nor inflammable, was launched in London yesterday.

Fitness checks

The Perkins diesel engine company has bought an electrocardiogram and is offering heart checks and advice to its 6,000 staff at Peterborough, Cambs, to ensure that they are fit for work.

Forest protest

Nearly 1,000 signatures have been collected Ashdown Preservation Society against oil drilling in the East Sussex forest and they will be presented at a public meeting on December 7.

Jubilee plaque

A plaque commemorating the Queen's Silver Jubilee is to be unveiled at Highnam, near Gloucester, tomorrow - six years late.

COLLEGE OF ARMS QUINCENTENARY  
16p stamp (left), shows the arms of the college and the 20p the arms of Richard III. The arms of Earl Marshal are on the 20p stamp and those of the City of London are on the 30p stamp. All were designed by Mr Jeffery Matthews of Beckenham, Kent.

Bearing arms: Two of a set of four stamps to be issued on January 17 to mark the 500th anniversary of the College of Arms which received its charter from Richard III in 1484.

The 16p stamp (left), shows

Hoverspeed, the cross-channel operator, is prepared to put two 70-seat hovercraft on the Severn next spring to provide a backup service for the suspect Severn Bridge. Talks are to take place next week between the Welsh authorities and Hoverspeed, which is jointly owned by British Rail and the Brostrom Group, of Sweden.

The two craft, the smallest of Hoverspeed's six-craft fleet on the Channel, would operate a 15-minute service, taking five minutes to cross, at fares to be determined by the Government. They would link two points on the river bank as close as possible to the bridge and the M4.

Since structural doubts arose

over the bridge because of heavier than predicted traffic levels, there has been deep concern in Wales over the reliability of its main southern link with England.

Last week, Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, announced new restrictions on the bridge to alleviate the danger of overloading, including possible closure of the bridge in high wind or because of traffic jams. If the bridge is closed, traffic faces a 50-mile diversion.

Mr John Cumberland, managing director of Hoverspeed said: "The hovercraft's amphibious qualities mean that it would not suffer the high tide range in the Severn, and little investment in shore installations would be needed."

## Back pain test for first comparison of orthodox and alternative medicine

By Clive Cookson

A full scientific comparison between conventional and alternative medicine may follow a feasibility study underway at a Medical Research Council unit. It would be Britain's first scientific trial of alternative practice against orthodox medicine, according to a council spokesman.

The subject chosen is back pain, one of the most widespread health problems, which is estimated to lose Britain 13 million working days a year, or £1,000m worth of industrial production.

The MRC Epidemiology and Medical Care Unit at Northwick Park Hospital, Middlesex, has almost completed a study to prepare for the proposed national trial, which would involve hundreds of back patients at centres throughout the country. It might start two years from now.

In the preliminary study, 50 patients are being allocated at random either to Northwick

Park's outpatient department for conventional hospital treatment or to a practice run by three members of the British Chiropractors' Association in Harrow. Chiropractic involves manipulation of the spine by normally trained staff who are not normally medically qualified.

Patients have been recruited for the study both from hospital's outpatient department and from chiropractors. "Both types of patient are in general willing to be randomly allocated to one or the other for treatment," Dr Tom Meade, director of the MRC unit, said. He had written in advance to about 100 general practitioners in the Harrow area and none objected. During the study a GP withheld consent in one case.

The efficacy of treatment is being measured by the patients' own assessment of their symptoms over a six week period. It is not clear that any objective test, such as straight leg raising

gives adequate and repeatable results.

Although the results of the preliminary study will not be known until early next year, Dr Meade feels sufficiently encouraged to have written to about 35 NHS consultants (mainly orthopaedic surgeons) in other parts of the country where chiropractors want to take part in a full-scale national comparison. So far nearly all have expressed interest.

"The British Chiropractic Association were very willing to take part in a randomized control trial, unlike some other alternative practitioners," Dr Meade said.

He warns against judging alternative medicine by anecdotal evidence or by trials without random allocation or with too few patients. The MRC assessment of chiropractic could be a model for future comparisons between alternative and orthodox medicine in other fields.

Chairman of BBC back after illness

Mr Stuart Young, aged 49, will perform his first public engagement as chairman of the BBC on Monday after a serious illness which at one time led to speculation that he might be forced to give up the job he took over in August.

A BBC aide at Broadcasting House said last night: "Mr Young was very ill but he is now firmly back in his seat with a good deal of vigor".

The illness, which led to an operation, has been an open secret within the broadcasting world for several weeks. Sir William Rees-Mogg, Mr Young's deputy, has been taking his place during his absence.

Stephens bail plea adjourned

Sue Stephens, aged 26, the former girl friend of David Martin, the convicted gunman, had her High Court plea for bail and leave to appeal against a six-month sentence adjourned yesterday.

Applications by Lester Purdy, aged 30, and Peter Enter, aged 26, were also adjourned. They were each jailed on Monday for nine months after being found guilty with Stephens of handling stolen goods for the benefit of Martin.

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## Hovercraft backup for Severn Bridge

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

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THE TIMES FRIDAY NOVEMBER 25 1983

HOME NEWS

3

## The cost of cultural heritage

### Royal Opera House to tighten its belt

By David Howson, Arts Correspondent

The Royal Opera House will commit itself to making cost savings of £600,000 a year if the Government rescues it from its present financial predicament. Sir Claus Moser, chairman of the board of directors, said yesterday.

The savings were outlined in the Priestley report commissioned by the Government to look into the workings of Covent Garden and the Royal Shakespeare Company.

Yesterdays indication from the company that it was willing to accept most of Priestley's recommendations paved the way for the Government to produce new funds to wipe out its debts.

The company had a deficit of more than £1m last year, reduced to £220,000 by bringing forward Arts Council guarantees and a supplementary grant of £450,000, and is heading for losses of £1.4m in the present financial year.

Sir John Tooley, the company's director general, said that there was no indication that the public would respond to more performances of the same opera, or that the policy would bring in additional revenues. Sir Claus said that such a policy would be "artistic death" to the house.

### Fund which helped save Belton needs £10m

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

The National Heritage Memorial Fund, which two months ago agreed to provide £8m to help save Belton House, the outstanding Restoration stately home in Lincolnshire, for the nation, needs £10m in its next annual grant from the Government to continue its work effectively. Lord Charterhouse, chairman of the fund, said yesterday.

The fund, set up in 1980, has

received an annual grant of £3m for the last three years.

Apart from Belton, one of the fund's main achievements has been to provide £2m for the National Trust for the purchase of Studley Royal, North Yorkshire.

National Heritage Memorial Fund Annual Report 1982-83, Church House, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BL, £1.50.



the Amnesty International gala concert on Sunday at the Theatre Royal, London.

(Photograph: Chris Harris).

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## PARLIAMENT November 24 1983

# Lawson repeats determination to cut taxes

## THE ECONOMY

Taxation would be lower at the end of this Parliament than it was at present, Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, declared during Commons questions. Twice during exchanges about the recovery of the domestic economy, Mr Lawson said the Government was determined to reduce taxation "during the lifetime of this Parliament".

He stated that over the two years from the first half of 1981 to the first half of 1983 the economy had grown by 5 per cent. With world trade declining over this period growth had been entirely due to a sharp recovery in domestic demand.

Fixed investment over the same period had risen by 7 per cent and for 1984 the Government expected an increase of 4 per cent compared with growth in the economy as a whole of 3 per cent.

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark (South Thanet) said that what was needed to keep domestic demand fuelled was lower taxation. Any talk he said, of increased taxation would act like frost on a tender plant, killing off the vitally needed growth in the economy.

Mr Lawson: What we need most of all is sound fiscal and monetary policy which will lead to downward pressure on interest rates and continued low and of possible lower inflation.

The inflation that has caused the recovery we have seen so far. Of course the Government is determined to bring down taxation in the lifetime of this Parliament.

Mr Michael Brown (Brigg and Cleethorpes, C) can be specific that by the end of this Parliament the net burden of taxation will be lower than at the present time.

Mr Lawson: It is the Government's firm intention that taxation will be reduced during the lifetime of this Parliament. Taxation will be lower at the end of this Parliament than at the present time.

Mr Robert Sheldon (Aston-under-Lyne, Lab): It is clear that the extra spending we are seeing has resulted from the removal of restrictions on hire purchase and also the reduction in the savings ratio. How long does he expect this effect to continue?

Mr Lawson: He is wrong in attributing any great impetus, although it has some effect, to the abolition of hire purchase control. A much bigger cause has been the decline in the savings ratios.

With inflation going down, people have to save less in order to make up the value of the savings is ensured. This is one of the direct ways that falling inflation leads to recovery.

Mr John Stokes (Halesowen and Stourbridge, C): If recovery is to be maintained, it is essential that British manufacturing increases its share of the home economy.

Mr Lawson: He is right. The fortunes of the economy as a whole

depend critically upon British industry being efficient in the home market and overseas.

Mr Osmagh McDonald, an Opposition spokesman on economic and Treasury affairs: How is Mr Lawson going to compensate for the drop in domestic demand? Asked next April by critics in the housing benefit? This could lead to a drop of 9.5 per cent in the take-home pay of a single person earning £90 a week and 9.3 per cent for a married man with two children under 17 earning £120 a week.

Mr Lawson: I am confident there will be further growth in the economy next year. The Industry Act forecast of 3 per cent takes full account of the change in housing benefit. Even as a result of the change some 6.5 million households in the land will be taking advantage of the housing benefit scheme.

• The action of the Ford workers in rejecting a management pay offer of 7.5 per cent was likely to damage only themselves and their families.

Mr Lawson: The Chancellor, said Mr Austin Mackay (Berkshire East, C), told in an answer that the retail price index for the 12 months to October 1983 had increased by 5 per cent, asked: Would he agree the best way of protecting the interests of pensioners would be for the Government to continue vigorously to bring about measures which will fight inflation and this is likely to be harmed by irresponsible action by companies like Fords in turning down the generous pay offer of 7.5 per cent?

Mr Lawson: I suspect that the activities of the workers at Fords are capable in the long run and maybe even in the short run, of damaging only themselves and their families.

The Government is determined to continue to keep inflation down by the fiscal and monetary policies it is pursuing which are the best possible social service we can render to the old age pensioners.

## Higher exports expected next year

The Government forecast a GDP growth of around 3 per cent between 1982 and 1983, and a similar growth rate was envisaged in 1984. Mr Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said during other Commons questions.

Mr Anthony Nelson (Chichester, C) said that an essential precondition for higher rates of economic growth and one ignored by the National Institute for Economic and Social Research was much lower levels of real interest rates.

Given the Treasury is predicting a fall in the level of inflation next year (the went on) can we look forward to significantly lower levels of interest rates?

Mr Lawson: I share the importance



Mackay: Irresponsible Ford unions

he attaches to the level of interest rates. Indeed it is the reason why we are determined to keep PSBR firmly under control and to a declining proportion of GDP. That is the only sure way of bringing interest rates down.

Mr John Maxton (Glasgow, Cathcart, Lab): An export-led recovery demands that civil engineering and engineering companies who are major exporters, require a large amount of public investment in the home economy, providing them with the basic base they must have in order to compete successfully in foreign markets.

Mr Lawson: British civil engineering companies have in the past few years done particularly well in export markets. What is important to them is the strength of the world recovery that is coming through strongly.

One reason we look for a much better performance in exports next year is because world trade will rise by about 5 per cent while this year there was a fall of about 1 per cent.

Later, Mr Nicholas Soames (Wolverhampton South-West, C) asked if the Government were not the Government's aim to bring inflation to a standstill upon those who earn less than the average wage?

Mr Peter Rees, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, replied: I have made it clear, as has the Chancellor, that when he finds himself in a position to reduce direct taxation the increase in thresholds of income tax should have our highest priority.

Mr Barney Hayhoe, Minister of State, Treasury, said the Government gave a high priority to an increase in tax thresholds.

## Treasury to list tax-free subscriptions

The Inland Revenue is to publish an 80-page document soon listing the bodies approved under section 192 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 for the purpose of deduction from income of fees, contributions or annual subscriptions paid to such bodies.

Mr Peter Rees, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, announced the impending publication in reply to Mr Michael Stern (Bristol, North-West, C) who asked for publication to be expedited because the present system meant that the taxpayer had no way of having certainty in calculating his tax bill.

Mr Rees said that Mr Stern's concern was shared by the Institute of Chartered Accountants. The administrative implications of the document were not as simple as Mps might imagine.

## Absent leaders enable deputies to have a go

## QUESTIONS

Mr John Biffen, Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the House of Commons was questioned about the degree of supervision being exercised by the Prime Minister for whom he was deputising over the speeches of her ministers while she was away at the Commonwealth Conference in New Delhi.

Mr Roy Hattersley, deputy leader of the Labour Party, who was deputising for Mr Neil Kinnock, the Leader of the Party, absent in Brussels, asked during Prime Minister's question time, about the sophisticated satellite which, he said, according to a Number 10 briefing paper, keeping her in touch with every manner of Government policy.

When it used (he asked) to clear the speech by Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy on Tuesday?

Mr Biffen: I am not clear who is the sophisticated satellite. I regard the term sophistication in relation to be as unnecessarily offensive from Mr Hattersley when he has the privilege

of speaking to the Dispatch Box in the absence of Mr Kinnock.

I am certain that in many quarters of the House there will be a widespread welcome for one remark above all others the Secretary of State made when he said: "The build-up of Soviet military power has grown worse and met with an inadequate western response."

He spoke with a voice which finds fewer and fewer echoes on Labour benches.

Mr Hattersley: I am sure that the plain man we know Mr Biffen to understand that there is a serious question about collective responsibility. Does each Cabinet minister speak for himself or does each Cabinet minister speak for the Government?

Mr Biffen: I have the disappointing advantage of having read the speech and it is utterly within the terms of collective responsibility, tightly drawn as they are for this administration.

## Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Social Security (Age of Retirement) Bill, second reading.

## Debate next Thursday on EEC budget

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:

Monday: Debate on the Royal Navy.

Tuesday: Debate on Scottish affairs.

Wednesday: Restrictive Trade Practices (Stock Exchange) Bill, remaining stages. Consideration of British Railways Bill.

Friday: Desires on EEC budgetary proposals and the CAP proposals.

Friday: Prescription and Limitation (Scotland) Bill, second reading.

The main business in the House of Lords will be:

Monday: Agricultural Holdings Bill, committee, second reading.

Tuesday: Inshore Fishing (Scotland) Bill, second reading.

Wednesday: Debates on the European Social Fund and on the dispute involving the Messenger Newspaper Group.

# Caledonian Girls to Dallas/Fort Worth: Two Super Executive tickets for the price of one.

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## Somerset House rooms to be opened to the public

## HOUSE OF LORDS

The Somerset House Bill, presented for second reading in the House of Lords by Lord Skelmersdale, a Government spokesman, was a further demonstration of the Government's concern to preserve the nation's heritage, the minister said.

Lord Skelmersdale said it would enable the Secretary of State for the environment to conserve and widen the public use and appreciation of fine buildings which was an important element in Britain's heritage.

Lord Houghton of Sowerby (Lab) said tourists would pour into Somerset House if they knew that Oliver Cromwell lay in state and that King Jones lived and died there. It was a romantic place.

He asked for an express assurance that commercial lettings were in no sense contemplated under this Bill.

Lord Skelmersdale said he was unable to commit the Government to vast or any sums of money, but no doubt the Earl of Gowrie, Minister for the Arts, would do his best to help in the appeal. Already there had been promises of £500,000.

The Bill was read a second time.

## Repatriation of prisoners

The Repatriation of Prisoners Bill, introduced by Lady Trumpington, a Government spokesman, was read a first time in the House of Lords.

It makes provision for "facilitating the transfer between the United Kingdom and places outside the British Isles of persons for the time being detained in prisons, hospitals and other institutions by virtue of

## EXPENDITURE

The Government was not proposing to change its strategy, Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, declared in opening the Commons debate on the Autumn Statement he had delivered last week. He commented that the Government had not got its word despite all the talk of hidden deficits and savage cuts.

He considered the eight of the Government sticking to its policy and its word had caused consternation in some quarters. Critics had been disappointed, he said, as they had been unable to accuse the Government of fudging the figures.

Mr John Maxton (Glasgow, Cathcart, Lab): An export-led recovery demands that civil engineering and engineering companies who are major exporters, require a large amount of public investment in the home economy, providing them with the basic base they must have in order to compete successfully in foreign markets.

Mr Lawson: British civil engineering companies have in the past few years done particularly well in export markets. What is important to them is the strength of the world recovery that is coming through strongly.

One reason we look for a much better performance in exports next year is because world trade will rise by about 5 per cent while this year there was a fall of about 1 per cent.

Later, Mr Peter Hattersley, chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs, in a speech to the House of Commons, maintained that every objective and independent survey in the country, every forecaster, was saying that the Chancellor was over-optimistic in his projections for the economy. He felt the Chancellor had not the faintest idea in what direction the economy was moving.

This (he said) is one of the Government's major objectives, for lower taxation increases the individual's freedom of choice and encourages enterprise.

Any Chancellor could reduce taxation in the short-term by putting borrowing back to the 1979

account, fell under Labour between 1974 and 1979 from 6.5 per cent of total national output to 4.4 per cent. In 1981 it had fallen to 3.4 per cent and since then it had been broadly stable.

Figures were distorted by defence spending being classified as current but if this was included in the public sector then for 1978-79 and 1982-83, the total public sector capital spending increased from 36 per cent from £12,000m to £17,000m. If the 1982-83 figure was adjusted to take account of sales of special assets, including the sale of council houses, the figure would be £20,000m.

He invited Mr Hattersley, chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs, to spell out his party's policies. He seemed to be in some puzzlement. In June Mr Hattersley had written in *The Times*: "Our economic policy was a

most likely, he said, is that the Chancellor has not got the faintest idea in what direction the economy is moving. I am afraid, because of the humiliation the Chancellor faces, he will be driven to new levels of political expediency and economic irresponsibility.

We have no illusions about the Chancellor. He is the man who sold Britain to America and with so little concern to the public interest.

We fear there is only one way in which the Chancellor can make substantial enough room in his budget for tax cuts which will indicate his election manifesto and that is to sell off all the perhaps £4,000m of British Telecom's assets next year.

It was not consistent with Victorian values they were told they should all share, to sell off assets to finance consumption. That was not how that corner shop in Grantham was able to grow and develop.

The present situation was not so much a vicious circle as an absurd merry-go-round, continuing to go round and round until the Chancellor disappeared up his own

PSBR.

The Chancellor said last Sunday that proof of the Government's frankness with the nation was the PSBR amendment "that the Government's economic policy fails to plan or provide for reductions in the level of unemployment, accepts and accommodates a continuing decline in investment and stagnation in output and is based on the proven fallacy that a reduction in Government spending will, notwithstanding the hardship that such cuts cause, produce an automatic improvement in the economic prospects of this country".

He said the Chancellor's economic prescription was not concerned with the nation's physical welfare. He had an almost total disregard of numbers concerning Government spending and borrowing. He seemed to believe these numbers were mystically related to economic success, while other criteria were brushed aside. The length of the dole queue was simply a residual figure at the end of his equation when his other objectives had been served.

In his speech today, the Chancellor had made a passing reference to

"the need for some net increases in tax in next year's Budget" to be an objective forecast. He would describe it in the most parliamentary sense, as a slight of hand.

It was either an attempt to frighten some Conservative MPs who might press for public expenditure increases or it might be a crude attempt to create a bogey victory for the Chancellor next April.

Most likely, he said, is that the Chancellor has not got the faintest idea in what direction the economy is moving. I am afraid, because of the humiliation the Chancellor faces, he will be driven to new levels of political expediency and economic irresponsibility.

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## Record £62m drugs haul shows growth of illicit market in Britain

Customs officers seized a record 195.5 kilos of heroin, much of it at Heathrow airport, in the financial year ended last April, it is disclosed in the annual report for 1982-83 published yesterday by Customs and Excise.

The seizures represent an increase of 88.5 per cent, on seizures of 104 kilos in 1981-82 which in turn were 178 per cent above figures for the previous year. The size of the seizures given in the latest report indicate yet again the increase in the domestic market in heroin.

Overall, customs discovered

### Consumers pay £28bn tax

The total revenue collected from Customs and Excise activities in 1982-83 was £27,956m which represented an increase of 11 per cent on the previous year. Value added tax alone produced £13,815m and that was a 17 per cent rise. The increase came from greater consumer spending.

On the excise side the yield from tobacco was almost £3,500m. The drop in consumption almost offset 1982 budget increases leaving only a 0.75 per cent increase in income from that source. Duty from alcohol fell by 2.5 per cent to £3,021m. At the same time the report shows an increase in the

#### Chesterfield by-election

### Benn factor remains the wild card

Mrs Gloria Haverhand would be absolutely delighted if Mr Wedgewood Benn became Labour's candidate for next year's parliamentary by-election at Chesterfield. It would, she added, be "absolutely fabulous".

Mrs Haverhand is chairman of Chesterfield Conservative Association and quotes with modest relish an opinion poll showing that one in four voters would not vote for Mr Benn. She has firm views on why this might be so. "He would be coming here merely to represent his own extreme left-wing views," she says. "He would be here for his own self-importance and not for Chesterfield and the people's views."

Few commentators would disagree with at least part of her analysis. Chesterfield is a town of profound moderation, in all things. A mere bus journey from left-wing bastions such as Bolsover (home of the Skinnerian), Clay Cross of immortal socialist memory, the "socialist republic of South Yorkshire," the town has contrived to be perfectly happy for the past 19 years with an MP who personifies Labour moderation, Mr Eric Varley.

Concern more to conserve Chesterfield's environmental heritage, including a magnificent and historic market, than with national politics, the local Labour-led council is hardly to

be found in the vanguard of "progressive" socialism.

Even its miners, eking out

fairly comfortable lifestyles

from the rich Derbyshire coalfield, proclaim a moderation that belies the popular view of collierymen.

Not much of this information can be gleaned from the town's official Labour sources. The local party secretary, Mr Arthur Webber, would only say that 35 people are now seeking the nomination for Labour. Mr Benn has not been officially in touch with Mr Webber. He declined in the bluntest terms to give names or other information. However, a shortlist is to be drawn up on January 8 and a candidate selected on January 15.

It was left to the local secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers, Mr Peter Heathfield, to say that the names of former Labour MPs such as Mr Robert Cryer, Keighley, Mr Phillip Whitehead, Derby North, and Mr Alexander Lyons, York, had been mentioned to him as applicants.

Other clues came from a local bookmaker, Mr Brian Harrison. He will be offering odds of 8-1 on the Labour leader of neighbouring North East Derbyshire district council, Mr Clifford Fox. Mr Benn, if he made the shortlist, would be at 6-1. Another name mentioned by Mr Heathfield is that of the Chesterfield council leader, Mr William Flanagan.

Mr Heathfield, occasionally cited as favouring Mr Benn, said: "He is the most important figure outside the parliamentary party. You cannot disregard him, so that has to put him in with a chance."

Whether Mr Heathfield's

members feel the same will be known on Monday when the decision on their nominee is announced. In the unlikely event of the miners favouring Mr Benn, it is also accepted that the NUM no longer has the same constituency clout it once had, thanks to pit closures.

The Benn factor is also very much in the minds of the Liberal/SDP. The local Liberal Association secretary, Mr Kenneth Eversleigh, says a Benn candidacy would cost Labour votes that would be transferred not to the Conservatives but to the Alliance candidate, Mr Max Payne. Mr Payne, aged 53, a lecturer at Sheffield Polytechnic, fought the June general election.

The Conservative candidate, to be chosen on December 8, will doubtless experience some backlash as a result of local redundancies in the engineering, coal, and steel industries.

General election, Varley, E.G. (class 2A) 8.7.83. Lab. 1st, 7.7.83.

Mr Benn: Opponents hoping for his candidature



Mr Varley: Representing all-round moderation

### Renault's newcomer out to take aerodynamic title

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Renault, France's state-controlled motor group, is preparing to challenge Europe's leading quality car makers with a new executive saloon, which it claims is the world's most aerodynamically efficient car.

More than £100m has been invested in the new R25, which goes into production at Renault's Sandouville plant near Le Havre in three weeks' time. It will be on sale in France from March and is expected to reach British customers by the summer.

The previous holder of the aerodynamic "blue ribbon" was the Audi 100 with a drag coefficient of .30 compared with the Renault 25's .28.

The R25 means much more to Renault than a replacement

### Police Bill concession from Hurd

By Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

Labour MPs forced a concession from the Government yesterday over the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill.

In a sustained attack during the Bill's committee stage, they argued that a clause in it would give police new powers of entry to private property. When police wanted to search someone on it, private property would be treated as a public place, they said.



Mr Hurd: Will look again

The largest increase in excise duties came from betting and gaming, which went up 18 per cent to £602m. Revenue was increased by higher charges and increased casino activity.

Customs duties yielded £1,028m. The increase of 7 per cent is attributed in the report to a fall in the exchange rate for sterling against other important currencies.

Customs and Excise receipts in 1982-83 represented 38 per cent of central government taxation revenue.

| COST OF HOLIDAY LIVING INDEX<br>13 DESTINATIONS |          |          |           |          |        |         |            |        |        |         |         | UK     |
|---|----------|----------|-----------|----------|--------|---------|------------|--------|--------|---------|---------|--------|
|   | PORTUGAL | MALLORCA | Lanzarote | TENERIFE | SPAIN  | MADERIA | LAS PALMAS | CYPRUS | MALTA  | MOROCCO | FLORIDA | UK     |
| ITEMS   | £8.7     | £5.8     | £1.2      | £5.2     | £5.2   | £7.8    | £7.8       | £8.5   | £2.8   | £6.7    | £10.0   | £107.8 |
| Dinner for two                                  | £4.85    | £3.80    | £2.80     | £2.21    | £2.85  | £8.00   | £11.59     | £9.80  | £11.55 | £9.27   | £11.50  | £17.48 |
| Wine  | £9       | £9       | £10       | £10      | £10    | £10     | £10        | £10    | £10    | £10     | £10     | £10    |
| Cup of coffee                                   | £1.10    | £1.10    | £1.10     | £1.10    | £1.10  | £1.10   | £1.10      | £1.10  | £1.10  | £1.10   | £1.10   | £1.10  |
| Beer (£/one)                                    | £1       | £1       | £1        | £1       | £1     | £1      | £1         | £1     | £1     | £1      | £1      | £1     |
| Cup of tea                                      | £1.12    | £1.12    | £1.12     | £1.12    | £1.12  | £1.12   | £1.12      | £1.12  | £1.12  | £1.12   | £1.12   | £1.12  |
| Cameras   | £2.10    | £1.78    | £2.17     | £2.05    | £2.00  | £3.00   | £1.85      | £1.96  | £2.85  | £2.32   | £1.98   | £2.59  |
| Soft drinks                                     | £2.22    | £2.22    | £2.22     | £2.22    | £2.22  | £2.22   | £2.22      | £2.22  | £2.22  | £2.22   | £2.22   | £2.22  |
| Sun cream                                       | £2.10    | £1.81    | £2.71     | £2.40    | £2.17  | £1.50   | £2.40      | £1.85  | £3.40  | £2.74   | £3.90   | £3.50  |
| 5 Post cards                                    | £1.18    | £1.18    | £1.18     | £1.18    | £1.18  | £1.18   | £1.18      | £1.18  | £1.18  | £1.18   | £1.18   | £1.18  |
| Car hire (per week)                             | £52.26   | £50.08   | £50.08    | £50.08   | £50.08 | £60.68  | £76.76     | £50.08 | £77.78 | £59.47  | £129.87 | £91.00 |
| Petrol (per gallon)                             | £2.13    | £1.83    | £1.85     | £1.83    | £1.79  | £1.87   | £1.84      | £1.50  | £1.70  | £1.57   | £1.83   | £1.12  |
| WEIGHTED TOTAL FOR ONE WEEK                     | £120     | £133     | £151      | £161     | £161   | £185    | £195       | £205   | £244   | £247    | £257    | £268   |

For those seeking winter sunshine, Thomas Cook have compiled this index comparing the prices of holiday expenses abroad with those in the UK. The week's total (bottom line) is based on dinner for two, a bottle of wine, two cups of coffee and tea, two beers and four soft drinks

daily; two rolls of 24-print film, a bottle of suncream, five postcards (including postage), a week's car hire and 20 litres of petrol. Exchange rates used are those for Nov 8. The top line shows totals expressed as percentages of the UK total; countries are in order of value for money.

### Portugal is cheapest for holidays

By Derek Harris

Commercial Editor

Once the winter holiday-maker has arrived at a foreign destination the cost of living would be lowest in Portugal and highest in Barbados. Only there and in Florida would costs be higher than in Britain, with Majorca as well as Portugal virtually cutting living costs by half compared with Britain.

This emerges from a survey by Thomas Cook to produce an index comparing the levels of holiday expenses in 12 popular destinations together with a comparison of British costs.

Although Portugal is so cheap there is a disincentive to drive too many miles by car: at £2.13 a gallon it has the most expensive petrol of all.

The week's totals in the index (bottom line) are based on these daily intakes: dinner for two, one bottle of wine, two cups of coffee and tea, two beers and four soft drinks.

Allowed for in the week are two rolls of 24-print film, a bottle of suncream, five postcards (including postage), a week's car hire and 20 litres of petrol. Exchange rates used are those operating on November 8.

On the top line the index is constructed with Britain representing 100 and the other countries as comparable percentages, thus indicating relative value for money for each country.

## "A great little performer Great value too!"



The new Ferguson TX 14" portable colour TV has the picture quality and clarity that André Previn described as, "Sharper, brighter...the richest colours I've ever seen. I'd say it was the best picture of all time".

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## Israel exchanges 4,500 guerrillas for six of its own soldiers

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Both sides in the Middle East conflict yesterday found cause for jubilation from the same event: the biggest, and, for Israel, most costly prisoner exchange it has ever negotiated with the PLO. Six young Israeli soldiers were exchanged for 4,500 Palestinian and Lebanese guerrillas - a ratio of one Israeli for every 750 Arabs.

Among the 1,100 Palestinians flown to Algiers in a fleet of three Air Force jumbo jets bearing the emblem of the Red Cross, were 98 Arabs convicted in the Israeli courts and serving life or other long sentences for serious terrorist crimes.

In addition to the track-suited guerrillas who left giving victory signs, singing national songs, vowing to return to the struggle and, in at least one case, spitting defiantly in the face of an Israeli policeman, the aircraft were also loaded with Palestinian archival material seized by the Israeli Army during the siege of west Beirut.

The complex deal also involved the complete emptying of Ansar, the Israeli prison camp in southern Lebanon, which had housed 4,400 suspected terrorists, including the former Palestine Liberation Organization commander in Sidon, Mr Salah Tazami. He is regarded by Israeli intelligence as the most dangerous man captured during the Lebanon war.

A fleet of 120 red and white Israeli civilian buses was used to ferry the 3,300 Ansar detainees who chose to be released inside southern Lebanon to four assembly points, while many curfews were imposed and tanks rumbled

**The deal is seen as a boost for the flagging fortunes of Yassir Arafat'**

alike, expressed apprehension at the risk which was being taken in releasing so many men and women regarded as bitter enemies of the state. But most spoke to thought it worthwhile.

Although the patiently negotiated deal, which involved more than 100 meetings in Geneva alone, was seen as a boost for the flagging fortunes of Mr Yassir Arafat, the hard-pressed PLO chairman - whose supporters form the bulk of those Palestinians set free - Mr Moshe Arens, the Defence Minister, denied that the heavy price paid by Israel was a sign of weakness.

Speaking after emotional scenes of reunion between the six Israelis and their families had been broadcast live on television, Mr Arens said: "I see it as a strength and a source of pride that we have his concern for our soldiers who fall prisoner in battle". He said there were no political implications in such an exchange.

## FBI fails to find source of leak

From Steven Weisman, The New York Times, Washington

An investigation ordered by President Reagan has failed after two months to find out who disclosed information to news organizations in September about US military options in Lebanon.

Several Administration officials doubted whether the FBI's investigation, which created tensions and suspicions at the White House, would uncover the sources of the information. But they believe that the inquiry would at least warn people in the Adminis-

stration against giving out classified material.

The investigation was the most wide-ranging attempt by Mr Reagan to clamp down on unauthorized leaks to the news media.

FBI agents had questioned Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, Mr William Casey, the Director of Central Intelligence, Mr James Baker, the White House Chief of Staff, and others.

One official, remarking that it was extraordinary for the FBI to interview such senior officials, emphasized that the investigation was criminal, not civil, in nature and therefore all the more explosive. He would not discuss what criminal violations might have taken place.

Several officials deplored the inquiry. Another said he was unsure of its extent but given the thinking at the White House it was entirely possible that there were wiretaps authorized for both Administration aides and journalists.

Welcome home: Danny Gilboa, one of six Israeli prisoners released by the PLO, is greeted by a young relative in Tel Aviv yesterday.

## Babies were buried near rubbish pile

Paris (AP) - A farmer said to be "slow-witted" and his wife were held yesterday in southern France on charges of killing nine of their newborn children.

The infanticide allegations against Jean-Pierre Leymarie, aged 44, a farmer, and his wife Rolande, aged 31, are said to be among the worst on record.

The couple live on a 20-acre farm in St-Bonnet-La-Rivière, near Brive, 255 miles south of Paris. They have two other children - a daughter of 12 and a son of 10, who according to neighbours appear well-raised and loved.

On Monday, officials discovered the first remains of the couple's other children buried in the farm courtyard. By Wednesday night, the remains of eight other babies, including a set of twins, had been found buried a few inches deep near a rubbish pile by the farmhouse.

The couple are said by the police to have admitted killing the nine babies by letting them bleed to death through cut umbilical cords.

## Salvadorean rebels reject election

From John Carlin, San Salvador

"This is not time for words. The time now is for fighting", a Salvadorean rebel leader said in response to the official announcement that presidential elections would be held in El Salvador on March 25.

Setting the election date will inject fresh life into a stagnant political process but is unlikely to have any positive effect on the country's most agonizing problem: the stalemated four-year civil war.

The Constituent Assembly, or parliament, which announced the elections, has become so bogged down in legislative minutiae that there has been no visible political direction in recent months in El Salvador, prompting much speculation lately of a coup by palpably impatient military officers.

The election date should check this threat and please President Reagan who, in the face of accusations of human rights abuses by government forces, finding it increasingly difficult to persuade Congress to approve badly-needed injections of military aid to El Salvador.

Elections, however, have long been the chief stumbling block to a negotiated solution to the country's problems. The guerrillas have said they will fight until they are guaranteed power-sharing in a provisional government prior to elections. Both Washington and the Salvadorean Government are adamant that "the rebels must not be allowed to shoot their way into power".

The left-wing rebels believe that elections will merely perpetuate a long-standing political system where right-wing military officers hold the key to power.

The powerful far right party,

Arena, the National Republican Alliance, which opposes political reform of any kind, is almost certain to field as its presidential candidate, Major Roberto D'Aubuisson, who has repeatedly been linked with El Salvador's notorious death squads.

## Election of Speaker Ankara's first test

From Rasit Gurdilek, Ankara

threatens to develop into the legislature's first crisis.

The military regime is known to be anxious to have Mr Ulusu elected speaker, not only to assuage its hurt pride over the defeat of the favoured Nationalist Democracy Party, but also to have a trusted figure mending over the untested civilians to safeguard its achievements. If elected, Mr Ulusu, a retired admiral, will depose for President Evren when he is out of office.

At first his election looked assured. President Evren received the party leaders after the election and reportedly obtained their acquiescence. But Mr Ulusu, and three Government ministers who were all elected as Nationalist Democracy Party members refused to join the party, asserting their independence. The party leadership publicly deplored their action and is now said to be having second thoughts on Mr Ulusu's candidacy.

However, the Motherland Party, trying to cultivate a warmer relationship with the President who had openly opposed Mr Ozal on the eve of the poll, is said to be determined to uphold Mr Ulusu's candidacy even if he rejects offers to join the party. A recent series of price rises relieved Mr Ozal from an unpleasant task and speculation was rife that this service was rendered on the understanding that Mr Ulusu would be the Motherland candidate.

Only after the election of the Speaker will the National Security Council be officially dissolved. Its members will be retired from the command of the armed services to become members of a Presidential Council to assist President Evren in the exercise of his sweeping powers for six more years. The appointed Consultative Assembly, the 160-strong organ which performed quasi-parliamentary functions under the military regime, will also end its legal existence then.

## Stowaways cast into sea

From Susan MacDonald, Dakar, Senegal

When they were discovered off the Sierra Leone coast the captain ordered a makeshift raft made out of two oil drums and planks. One stowaway who resisted was stabbed by the crew, then lashed to the raft and lowered over the side to die a few hours later. The other two were thrown into the sea with life jackets on.

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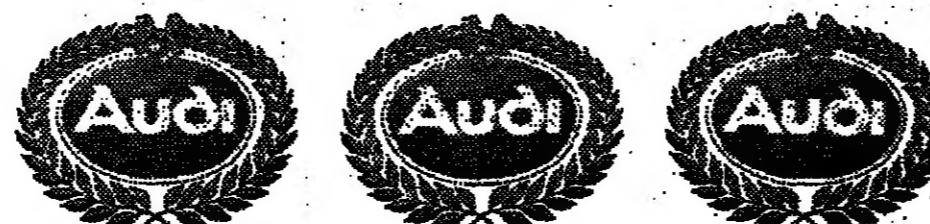
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The missiles debate

# America believes talks will resume

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The Reagan Administration yesterday continued to express confidence that the Soviet Union would eventually agree to resume talks on reducing medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe, despite its decision on Wednesday to break off the Geneva negotiations. However, US officials admitted they had no idea when a resumption would take place or in what forum.

There was considerable speculation that Moscow may propose merging the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Force (INF) talks with the Strategic Arms Reductions Talks (START).

## Summit concentrates on French mediation role

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

The role France could play in bringing the Russians back to the negotiating table was the central point in talks that began here yesterday between President Francois Mitterrand and Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany.

The French President arrived yesterday for regular consultations which are seen here as being of particular importance in coordinating Western defence policy and in preparing for the arduous European Community summit meeting in Athens next month.

Bonn has already announced

which are still continuing in Geneva.

The US is not in favour of merging the two rounds of negotiations as it feels this would complicate things. However, it has not ruled out such a possibility if this is seen as the only way of getting the medium-range missile talks going again.

US officials now seem to have abandoned their initial optimism that the Soviet Union might try to resume talks as early as January. It is now expected that Moscow will delay a return to the negotiating

table until it sees how European public opinion reacts to the breakdown and the deployment of the first 41 Pershing-2 and cruise missiles in West Germany, Britain and Italy at the end of this year.

Additional US missiles are to be deployed during 1984, including Belgium and the Netherlands where Government support for the new weapons is less pronounced than in the first three basing countries.

However, it is pointed out that the Soviet Union cannot afford to wait too long before

## Kremlin blames US and predicts new arms race

From Richard Owen, Moscow

"When Caesar crossed the Rubicon in 49BC, he was heading for victory," one Western diplomat said yesterday. "The Russians seem to have forgotten that."

Soviet officials and Western diplomats regard the breakdown of the Geneva talks on medium-range missiles as a watershed in East-West relations. Tass said that by voting to accept Pershing-2 the Bundestag had crossed the Rubicon.

Most Kremlin comment has been low-key, but has emphasized that an opportunity for arms reduction has been lost

and a new arms race is beginning.

Anticipating the charge that the Russian walkout is to blame for this, officials are emphasizing that the lack of progress at Geneva was the fault of the United States and made negotiations pointless.

Moscow has not yet made its authoritative statement on the future of Geneva, including the parallel talks on strategic arms reduction (Start). There is speculation that either the Euro-missiles will be incorporated in a revised version of Start, or that Start will also collapse.

In view of the breakdown of

## Kinnock argues for freeze on deployment

From Ian Murray, Brussels

Nato could make the most of the Soviet walkout from Geneva by agreeing to freeze further deployment of cruise and Pershing-2 missiles in Europe at present levels, Mr Neil Kinnock, leader of the Labour Party, argued in Brussels yesterday.

Mr Kinnock said that although he deeply regretted the walkout, the reasons were easy to understand. He believed that the Soviet negotiators should be invited back against the promise that deployment of American missiles would be frozen.

Like most party leaders at the Socialist International here, Mr Kinnock concentrated on the missiles issue. Only M Lionel Jospin, representing the French Socialist Party, spoke out in favour of deployment of the intermediate range missiles. Mr Kinnock commented wryly: "I was obliged to ask why they don't have cruise and Pershing in France".

The British Opposition leader blamed both the United States and the Soviet Union for the breakdown. "In recent weeks, there were significant chances of agreement at five minutes to midnight," he told the meeting. "Now we are at five minutes past midnight and in danger of going into a long, dark night."

According to Mr Kinnock:



Time to listen: Mr Kinnock in Brussels yesterday

the talks, the Labour Party would advocate the merging of negotiations on limiting medium-range and strategic weapons. Apart from the freeze on deployment by both America and Russia, the party wanted a freeze on nuclear tests and production, as well as the participation at the negotiations of countries other than the two superpowers.

According to Mr Kinnock:

## Policemen hanged for torture

Islamabad (AP) - Two senior police officers have been hanged, the martial law authorities said. The executions, at dawn on Wednesday, following the hanging on Tuesday of a police inspector convicted with them of torturing a robbery suspect to death.

It was the first time that a Pakistani policeman had been executed or even brought to trial.

According to an official announcement, Assistant Sub-Inspector Ghulam Rasool climbed the scaffold on Tuesday at Sahiwal central jail, 217 miles south of here. Sub-inspector Amir Khan and Head Constable Zaman Khan Niazi were hanged 24 hours later at Mianwali, 125 miles southwest of Islamabad.

## A potential weakness

He has an instinctive rapport with average Americans. He knows how they will react and he expresses himself in terms to which they respond. This is true not only of such important occasions as his televised defence of the American presence in Grenada and Lebanon, which must clearly have been a remarkable exercise in political persuasion. It is also true of his spontaneous comments on many issues.

This is partly, I am sure, a subconscious gift. He strikes a chord with average Americans because he thinks as they do. This is a political strength, but it is also potentially a policy weakness. The intellectual range of the average American is not unlimited. Nor is his knowledge of other countries.

President Reagan has frequently been found at press conferences to have left the right answer behind. His grasp of the subtleties of policy is known to be insecure in a number of fields. He cannot speak to the peoples of other countries with the same sureness of touch. Often he seems surprised by their reactions. These failings have not weakened him politically at home, but they might expose him to the kind of policy errors that would ultimately destroy his dominance.

Unless that happens, he must stand an excellent chance of winning re-election next year if he runs again. He could lose if the economic recovery were to peter out before next November. But I found most American economic analysts now expecting it to last well into 1985 at least.

He could be defeated if the disaffected groups - blacks, Hispanics, and women, with none of whom is he in good standing at the moment - were to be motivated and mobilized to vote against him in sufficient numbers. The chances of his losing for that reason would seem to me to be higher, though not yet probable.

His greatest danger, I suspect, may lie in foreign affairs. His political judgment will not lead him astray as to what the American public are prepared to accept. It is not likely, therefore, that the Grenada operation, which was a considerable political success, will be followed in the coming year by the invasion of Nicaragua which would be a much more hazardous political enterprise.

Not all international questions, however, can be answered by political intuition. One could imagine that in the Middle East, for instance, the Administration might be unable to secure a success and lack the diplomatic finesse to withdraw in time. But without some new national misfortune President Reagan must stand a good chance of translating his personal dominance this year into an election victory next year.

## Commentary

Geoffrey Smith

Washington

After three weeks of travelling around the United States, one of my strongest impressions is how the political scene is dominated by the personality of Ronald Reagan. More so, I believe, than ever before. Even those who disagree with him most have a sense of infatuation with political skills which look so much more formidable within the US than they do on our side of the Atlantic.

Part of his strength lies in his capacity to divorce his personal standing from the more controversial actions of his Administration. He comes across to the American public as such a pleasant and appealing person, his almost boyish charm belying his years. "I can be mad at him", one liberal Democrat remarked to me in the Mid-West, "but I cannot hate him".

It was precisely this quality which enabled him to win the presidency by destroying Mr Jimmy Carter in their television debate. How could anyone believe that such a friendly man could be trigger-happy? He made President Carter look the unreasonable man for having suggested any such thing.

But Mr Reagan has more than a pleasing manner and an easy smile. His political instincts are acute. His personal popularity may not depend upon approval of his policies, but he is careful not to push his luck too far. The moral majority policies on abortion and school prayer have been pushed well down his list of priorities - the occasional gesture of support, but no more.

Even Mr Reagan's insistence on securing tax cuts, which has been widely interpreted as the mark of a doctrinaire apostle of supply-side economics, probably owes to his political conviction that they are necessary to retain the support of those voters who elected him.

## La Paz blast

La Paz (Reuters) - A powerful bomb exploded in the empty Bolivian Parliament causing considerable damage and blowing out three-quarters of the windows in the government palace across the road. The city is rife with rumours of right-wing plots to overthrow left-wing Government.

## Manila march

Manila (AP) - Businessmen in suits marched alongside factory workers in one of the biggest anti-government demonstrations in Manila's financial centre since the assassination on August 31 of opposition leader Benigno Aquino. An estimated 15,000 took part.

## Pope for Seoul

Seoul (AFP) - The Pope will visit South Korea from May 3 to May 7 next year at the invitation of President Chun Doo Hwan. He will take part in ceremonies commemorating the bicentennial of Korean Catholicism.

## Bourse stopped

Amsterdam (AP) - Regular trading was delayed more than two hours yesterday on the Amsterdam Bourse as about 20 city employees sealed off its entrances to protest against proposed cuts in government salaries.

## Thieves to die

Nairobi (AP) - Four Somalis, including a woman, were sentenced to be executed by firing squad for stealing 17m shillings (£740,000) in public funds, Mogadishu radio reported. They were also ordered to pay it back.

## Line for sale

Metz (AP) - Forty-five blockhouses along France's pre-Second World War Maginot Line will be auctioned off on December 6 in the town of Longwy. Bidding will start at between 950 francs (£80) and 2,250 francs.

## Peace minute

Paris (Reuters) - One minute from noon on March 22, has been chosen for a worldwide silence for peace by Unesco which in conference here said the end of the world had become a terrifying possibility.

## Corpses find

Peking (Reuters) - Tombs built 3,000 years ago and containing well-preserved corpses have been discovered at Pingan Bao, Zhangwu County, northeast China. Pots, stone tools, agate, shell and bronze knives and delicate ornaments were also unearthed.

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## Glenn campaign heads for early splashdown as film proves a flop

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The film about Senator John Glenn's life, *The Right Stuff*, has failed to make the expected dramatic impact on his presidential aspirations. In fact, the former astronaut seems to be heading for an early splashdown in his effort to secure the Democratic nomination.

The film, although critically acclaimed, is proving a box-office flop. In spite of the fare it was given when it was launched, it is playing to houses often only half full. One reason for its lack of success, it is said, is that many people have been put off because they believe it is about Glenn the politician rather than Glenn the space hero.

Senator Glenn's campaign managers had hoped the film would produce a tidal wave of support among rank-and-file Democrats which would outweigh the successes of his chief rival, Mr Walter Mondale, who has been endorsed by the trade unions and teachers, and won key straw polls in Maine and Iowa.

Senator Glenn has attacked his rival for being soft on defence and for proposing job-creation and educational programmes – popular issues with many Democrats – which would add billions to the federal budget deficit.

Mr Mondale, who is more nimble on his feet, has had no

trouble in deflecting these attacks. On defence, for example, he noted that Senator Glenn had not only voted for the B1 strategic bomber, but also for the Administration's abortive attempt to persuade Congress to approve a resumption of nerve-gas production.

Similarly, Mr Mondale easily rebutted the charges of profligacy by pointing out that his opponent had supported President Reagan's economic programme. "The most irresponsible giveaway is Reaganomics and his open cheque-book defence spending policies," he said.

Senator Glenn's attacks have left many Democrats wondering what his political colours really are: "Are you a Democrat or a Republican?" A listener in Augusta, Georgia, asked earlier this month after Senator Glenn had finished elaborating his newly-devised pro-defence, anti-deficit message.

The senator seems uncomfortable with his image, and his attacks on his rival have not been made with much conviction. Never a powerful public speaker, he has sought in recent months to portray himself as a straightforward, honest, quiet-spoken product of middle America. He does not play the part of the bully very well.

Instead, the latest polls have shown that Mr Mondale has

## White idealist jailed for promoting ANC

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg

A young Afrikaner, Mr Carl Niehaus, was sentenced to 15 years in prison for high treason by the Rand Supreme Court yesterday. His fiancée, Miss Johanna Lourens, was given a four-year jail term on the same charge.

After hearing the sentence, Mr Niehaus, a bearded and bespectacled former theology student aged 23, turned to the public gallery, which was crowded with both blacks and whites, raised his arm in a clenched-fist salute and shouted *Amandla!* (power).

The gallery answered this traditional rallying-cry of black nationalists with the equally traditional response, *Awelela!* (ours). Earlier this week the judge had to call for order when the gallery applauded Mr Niehaus' defence of the use of violence against the state.

This occurred while Mr Niehaus was giving evidence in mitigation of his conviction. He told the court that after "a lot of turmoil in my soul" he had decided that the violence of the underground African National Congress, of which he was a member, was a justified response to the "structural violence" of the apartheid system.

Cross-examined by the prosecutor, Mr Niehaus agreed that he had helped to draw up a pamphlet justifying the May 20 Pretoria car bomb which killed 19 people and injured more than 200 others. He also said that the assassination of the Prime Minister might become "an option" if there was a chance it could end "the horror of the system".

Mr Niehaus told the court that the ANC had worked for peaceful change for 50 years,

## Black mine union wins first trial of strength

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg

South Africa's fledgling black miners' union, the National Union of Mineworkers, has won its first important battle by persuading the industrial court to order the reinstatement of 17 of its members, dismissed two months ago for refusing to work in an area they considered unsafe.

Goldfields of South Africa, the country's second biggest mining house, was also ordered to pay the men the wages they had lost since their dismissal on September 22.

"We regard this as a test case for miners' safety rights, and it is also the first time black miners have taken an industrial dispute to court," Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, the union's general secretary said. "It is only a temporary ruling, but we are confident our agreements will prevail."

The reinstatement order will run for 90 days, during which the union and management of Goldfields' West Driefontein Mine will try to settle the dispute before a conciliation board. If they cannot agree, they

## Drugs woman gets 16 years

Bülach, Switzerland (AP) – A Chilean woman, María Nilda Santana Valdez, aged 47, an alleged key member of a cocaine smuggling ring that operated throughout Western Europe, was sentenced here to 16 years in prison, the longest term since Switzerland's narcotics laws were stiffened in 1976.

She was found guilty of playing a big part in the delivery of at least 396lb of cocaine in 16 shipments from Bolivia between 1980 and 1982. Its street value was put at £30m.

Computer experts were assessing the contents of Helsingborg two weeks ago to see if it was war material. Similar investigations started in Malmö on three other cases apparently connected with the Helsingborg equipment.



Glad to be back: Vladimir Lyakov and Alexander Alexandrov, the Soviet cosmonauts describe their 150 days in space

## Future of Soviet space programme in doubt

From Our Own Correspondent, Moscow

The safe return of the two Soviet cosmonauts who spent 150 days in space has still left question marks over the long-term future of the Soviet space programme.

Pravda yesterday carried a front-page report of the landing in Kazakhstan, east of Dzharkazgan, but said relatively little about the undocking and the journey back to Earth. It said that the mission had been "one of the most complicated in history", but did not elaborate.

There were fears earlier – expressed on the whole by Western experts rather than

Soviet officials that the two men, Colonel Vladimir Lyakov and Mr Alexandrov, were marooned on board the space station Salyut 7, and that their Soyuz T9 craft might not make a safe descent. There were reports of a leak of propellant fuel.

There have been a series of Russian space mishaps over the past year. In December, a Soyuz crew made a hazardous return to Earth from Salyut 7, and had to be rescued in a snow storm after a bumpy landing. In April, the docking of a Soyuz craft with the space station – timed

to coincide with Kremlin celebrations of Lenin's birthday – had to be abandoned when automatic guidance systems malfunctioned.

Soviet scientists are also concerned about the long-term effects of prolonged weightlessness. The Soviet space programme envisages a network of permanent orbiting space stations and laboratories. The two men who returned last December – Lieutenant Colonel Anatoly Berezovoi and Mr Valentin Lebedev – spent 211 days in space, and officials were "worried" by the effect on

human organisms" of such missions.

Studies are being carried out on Colonel Lyakov and Mr Alexandrov, who last month began to complain of fatigue and muscular contractions.

Fears for the two men's lives arose at the end of September when a Soyuz launch which would have brought a new crew and fresh supplies to Salyut 7 aborted.

The Russians are breathing a sigh of relief that no dramatic rescue mission – either by a Soyuz crew, or by the Americans – proved necessary.

## Afghan vote comes down hard on the Russians

From Zoriana Pyzarski  
New York

The United Nations General Assembly has called for the immediate withdrawal of the Soviet Union's forces from Afghanistan. The resolution was approved by 116 votes to 20, with 16 abstentions.

The resolution was one of the General Assembly's most severe forms of censure. Even South Africa and Israel have sometimes been spared such heavy condemnation.

The assembly made clear that even though the Soviet occupation was nearly four years old the pressure for a political settlement would not slacken; nor could the Russians expect their tarnished image to brighten with mere gestures of interest in a solution. During the debate Pakistan's challenge to Moscow to present a timetable for withdrawal was echoed by many speakers.

Pakistan, which has more than two million Afghan refugees, once again led a campaign that was heightened by fears that after Grenada both superpowers might feel it easier to take international law into their own hands.

Hopes for a solution that persisted early this year seem to have faded.

Forty-five Third World countries sponsored the resolution, which reaffirms the right of the Afghan people to determine their own form of government.

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2 Subject to a minimum purchase of £500 (see paragraph 3) a purchase may be made in multiples of £50. The date of purchase will for all purposes be the date payment is received, with a completed application form, at the National Savings Deposit Bond Office, a Post Office, tracing National Savings Bank business or such other place as the Director of Savings may specify.

2 2 A certificate will be issued to each applicant on each bond. This certificate will show the value of the bond and its date of purchase. This certificate will be replaced on each anniversary of the date of purchase, and on part repayment in accordance with paragraph 5, by a new certificate showing the updated value of the bond, including capitalised interest.

### MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM HOLDING LIMITS

3 No person may hold, either solely or jointly with any other person, less than £500 in any one bond or more than £50,000 in one or more bonds. The maximum holding limit will not prevent the capitalisation of interest under paragraph 4 but capitalised interest will count towards this limit if the holder wishes to purchase another bond. Bonds inherited from a deceased holder and interest on such bonds will not count towards the maximum limit. Bonds held by a person as trustee will not count towards the maximum limit. Bonds held as trustee of a separate fund or which he or the beneficiary may hold in a personal capacity.

4 The Treasury may vary the maximum and minimum holding limits from time to time upon giving notice, but such a variation will not prejudice any right enjoyed by a bond holder immediately before the variation in respect of a bond then held by him.

INTEREST

5 Interest will be calculated on a day to day basis from the date of purchase up to the date of repayment. Subject to paragraph 4 interest on a bond will be payable at a rate determined by the Treasury, which may be varied upon giving six weeks notice.

6 Interest on a bond will be capitalised on each anniversary of the date of purchase without deduction of income tax, but interest is subject to income

tax and must be included in any return of income made to the Inland Revenue in respect of the year in which it is capitalised.

### REPAYMENT

5 1 A holder must give three calendar months' notice of any application for repayment before redemption but no prior notice is required if application is made on the death of the sole bond holder. Any application for repayment of a bond must be made in writing to the National Savings Deposit Bond Office and be accompanied by the current investment certificate. The period of notice will be calculated from the date on which the application is received in the National Savings Deposit Bond Office.

5 2 A certificate may be made in accordance with paragraph 5 1 for repayment of a bond, including capitalised interest, but the amount to be repaid must be less than £50 or such other figure as the Treasury may determine.

5 3 Payments will be made by crossed warrant sent by post. For the purpose of determining the amount payable in respect of a bond the date of repayment will be treated as the date on the warrant.

5 4 No payment will be made in respect of a bond held by a minor under the age of seven years, either solely or jointly with any other person, except with the consent of the Director of Savings.

5 5 Bonds will not be transferable except with the consent of the Director of Savings. The Director of Savings will, for example, normally give consent in respect of the disposal of bonds on the death of a holder but not to any proposed transfer which is by way of sale or for any consideration.

### NOTICE

5 6 The Treasury will give any notice required under paragraph 3 2, 4 1, 5 2 and 8. The notice will be given in the manner in which they think fit. If notice is given otherwise than in the Gazette, it will as soon as reasonably possible thereafter be recorded in them.

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5 7 Each bond may be held for a guaranteed initial period of 10 years from the purchase date. Thereafter, interest will continue to be payable in accordance with paragraphs 4 1 and 4 3 until the redemption of the bond. The bond may be redeemed either at the end of the guaranteed initial period or on any date thereafter, in either case upon the giving of six months' notice by the Treasury.

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## SPECTRUM

When the boat people set sail from Vietnam they believed they were leaving tyranny behind to head for freedom and a new life. But for 6,000 of them impounded in closed camps in Hongkong, the desperate voyage had merely traded one prison for another. A new prison with no hope of early release

# A slow boat to nowhere

By Stephanie Williams

It takes one hour by boat to travel from the centre of Hongkong to the remote corner of the island of Lantau to visit the Chi Ma Wan Closed Centre for Vietnamese refugees.

Here, tucked into low cliffs behind the beach, nearly 2,500 Vietnamese men, women and children are living on what used to be a football pitch behind barbed-wire fences 17ft high.

There is a similar encampment across the straits on the island of Heiling Chau, a former leper colony that is now a rehabilitation centre for drug addicts. These "closed centres" are, in fact, prisons.

Of the 13,500 Vietnamese refugees living in Hongkong today, more than 6,000 are now detained in these two closed centres and a third, smaller one on an isolated peninsula on Hongkong island. All those detained have arrived since July 1982; all are prohibited from finding work outside and are subject to discipline and control.

The decision to impound the Vietnamese was taken in the face of continuing arrivals of boat people and the drying-up of quotas for resettlement in the West. Until July, 1982, Hongkong had sheltered Vietnamese boat people in "open" camps in the urban areas where the refugees were able to live rent-free, go out to work and earn money to get back on their feet.

Locally, these camps have never been popular. Since 1980 the Hongkong authorities have been pursuing a rigorous policy to restrict immigration from China, a policy that includes spot checking of identity cards and the forbidding of wives and children of recent immigrants to join their spouses and parents in Hongkong. From the open camps it has been too easy for the Vietnamese simply to be absorbed into the community.

At the same time, since 1979 other countries of South-East Asia, Thailand, Malaysia, the Philippines have been keeping the Vietnamese in varying degrees of closed detention, while others have refused the boat people any kind of asylum. For too long,

A Hongkong camp: 130 bunks for 280 people - single men on top, couples in the middle, children at the bottom

Hong Kong had looked the most attractive destination in the region. As one security officer put it, there was a growing feeling that "if you could not get to the United States, then Hong Kong would do instead." By spreading the word that from July, 1982, Vietnamese arriving in Hong Kong would no longer be free it was hoped to discourage new arrivals.

I visited Chi Ma Wan on a Friday morning. The centre consists of 15 corrugated iron huts: eight dormitories, one large eating hall, a building for newcomers who are quarantined for six days after arrival, a kitchen, two blocks of latrines, a shower room and the hospital. The Salvation Army maintains a small workshop. There are a few trees near one perimeter wall; otherwise there is no shade and no relief from hard concrete surfaces. The only space for recreation is beneath a basket ball net outside the eating hall.

The refugees are free to move about within the fences, but are only allowed out in working parties under guard to sweep the road, cut grass, to collect rations from the jetty or, if seriously ill, to go to hospital on Hongkong island. They may receive one 30-minute visit per week from relatives or close friends. Within the camp, there are only plastic cups and containers; knives in the kitchen are kept under lock and key; other tools are permitted only under supervision.

All parcels and letters coming into the centre are opened and searched for weapons and drugs; outgoing mail is checked, in the words of the officer in charge of the camp, "to see if they say anything that is not true about the camp". Children born in the camp have their births registered in Hongkong, but they are not accorded the right of Hongkong citizenship. When they have been accepted as immigrants to a country in the West, the refugees are released - on to planes at the airport.

Ten a.m. inside the eating hall, and the noise is deafening. In one half, four classes around blackboards competed to hear English lessons; in the other,

and queues begin to form outside the block well beforehand, young children in front. When I left, just after noon, nearly 500 people were filing in to sit on the floor to watch the news in Cantonese, a language almost no one could understand.

Elsewhere in the camp, all seemed very clean, orderly and a little too quiet. A group of women were washing at the eight double standpipes in one corner. Some children were messing about in the "streets" between the buildings. A tiny, open-air library which the Salvation Army opened a month ago was crowded - about 20 men reading papers, generally in Vietnamese, many years out of date, that are mainly sent from America.

At noon and 6 p.m. the refugees are allowed to watch one hour of television

About 40 were waiting on wooden benches to see the doctor in a separate compound within the camp; about the same number were lining up to wait for their mail to be released.

Inside each dormitory are ranged triple tiers of bunks - each a 4ft by 6ft shelf of hardboard - in three rows. The bunks are rammed up hard against one another so they form three shelves the length of the building. Two of the rows line up so that the head of one bunk touches the foot of the one behind. They look like warehouses stacked up with people.

In the hut I visited there were 132 bunks occupied by 280 people: single men on the top, couples in the middle, children at the bottom. Each family's

she shares hers with two sisters and her mother, who is Chinese and the reason why they left Vietnam. Her father, an engineer, is still there.

We spoke to no one who complained about conditions in the camp. Universally the food was praised. Was there nothing they wanted? Books," said one. "Freedom," said another.

One old lady, who has a brother in Australia, spoke privately in Mandarin to my colleague. "The only thing that bothers us is getting out. We are waiting for the visas. We are waiting for a change of policy. The food is very good. The number of books could be better. But the only thing we have in our minds, day and night, is to leave. And, if we could leave a little faster, it would be nice."

The tragedy is that this is not likely to happen. Chi Ma Wan's volunteers are now organising a programme for permanent education for the children. Fifty per cent of the Vietnamese now coming to Hongkong arrive from North Vietnam. The United States, which has so far taken nearly 60 per cent of the boat people, will not accept them.

Half the Vietnamese already in Hong Kong do not fulfil the requirements to settle in the West: either they have no relatives overseas, or they cannot prove they worked for the South Vietnamese administration. Because many of the more recent refugees have left to escape the extreme poverty of conditions in Vietnam, they are not defined as refugees but as economic migrants and do not qualify for resettlement. In any case, Western countries like Britain, with economic problems of their own and suffering from "compassion fatigue", have already filled their quotas of refugees at the UN conference in 1979.

For Hong Kong the problem is that her numbers of boat people, who nobody wants, are gradually increasing. Unfortunately for the boat people themselves, it may only now be beginning to dawn that they may have traded life under one kind of tyranny for a prison of another sort.

**The only thing we have in our minds is to leave'**

space also accommodated its meagre possessions in neat cardboard boxes. Towels, a roll of lavatory paper, water bottles, were commonly strung along pieces of string across the bunks. Babies slept in string hammocks strung across the space.

It was all very quiet. People were dozing, reading, writing letters, studying English. One young girl was painstakingly pouring what turned out to be expensive perfume received in the morning's post from a paper cup into a plastic medicine bottle.

Her neighbour, Pham Ngoc Anh, a pretty 22-year-old girl from Hanoi, has been in the centre since last May. She came to Hongkong with her two brothers who sleep in the bunk above;

## THE TIMES Tomorrow

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## The noses have it

After a summer advertising offensive by Britain's largest manufacturer, the British snuff industry is gathering itself for a campaign to convince the public the snuff-taking is no mere relic of the Victorian age.

Early analysis of its £20,000,

five-month campaign has persuaded J. and H. Wilson of Sheffield that its efforts, aimed primarily at the young, seem to have been justified. "The response", says the company's general manager, Jerry Jones, "proves without doubt that an immense interest is developing." This initiative is reinforced by a more moderate sweep by the Snuff Grinders and Blenders Association, which hopes to revive the boom days of the late seventeenth to early nineteenth centuries when men and women of every age and caste enjoyed their snuff.

Wilson's summer campaign offered "refreshment at your fingertips" to the predominantly young, and fashionable readers of *Tatler*, *Avant Garde*, *Cosmopolitan*, *The Stage*, *Time Out*, *New Musical Express*, *Melody Maker* and *National Student Reader*. Readers of each publication were enticed with the offer of a free tin of Medicated No 99. Six thousand responded.

Wilson has been trying to promote the idea of snuff as a "smart and sensual pleasure" in its advertising, hoping to dismiss the image of an unpalatable habit practised by a vanishing breed. In the process the company, which celebrates its 150th anniversary this year, has been criticized for aiming at the young, and for employing what has been interpreted as an occasionally clumsy adaptation of the jargon of the drug culture. Sample: "Wow! It's heady stuff!"

Apart from such attempts to bring the habit back into vogue, snuff is also starting to find favour among those cigarette smokers who are beginning to

heed their wheezing chests and ailing hearts, but who cannot altogether renounce tobacco.

The loudest medical support for snuff as a possible smoking substitute has come from Dr Michael Russell and Dr Martin Jarvis of the Institute of Psychiatry's addiction research unit. The great benefit of snuff-taking, they claim, is the absence of combustion, which means the elimination of smoking-related cancers (the lung variety kills nearly 30,000 Britons each year), bronchitis and, possibly, heart diseases.

Snuff also happens to be an efficient way of acquiring nicotine. Drs Jarvis and Russell calculate that peak levels of absorption into the blood are achieved in less than eight minutes - slightly less than cigarettes and considerably less than cigars. While not risking off the possible danger of nasal cancer and other "nasal irritations", they are optimistic about snuff's relative benefits.

"Our findings", they wrote in *The Lancet*, "suggest a new age for snuff as a feasible alternative to cigarette smoking. Snuff could save more lives, avoid more ill health than any other preventive measure likely to be available to developed nations well into the twenty-first century."

Yet the perception of snuff's impact on health, like the habit itself, seems to change with passing fashions. Moliere may or may not have been joking when he called it "the craving of upright men. It not only rejoices and purifies brains of men but it also instructs their souls unto righteousness and by taking snuff we acquire virtue".

At the same time physicians were condemning it for "reducing the brain to a sooty, dry condition, increasing one hundredfold death from apoplexy and cancer". Manufacturers answered these complaints with medicated concoctions (still the most popular types in Britain)

stuff without decidedly losing caste".

By this time smoking was drawing level. It suited the new Victorian surface decorum: neat white handkerchiefs and contemplative curls of smoke replaced gaudy brown-stained napkins and the snort and jabber of coffee-house wit. There was still a substantial British snuff habit, however, until the Second World War, particularly among people - lawyers and miners, for example - to whom smoking is forbidden, and in dusty factories where snuff might clear the nasal passages.

Snuff consumption in Britain, measured at 1.2 million lb. in 1944, was down last year to 0.1 million lb., but Wilson estimates that there are still half a million regular users. Most of them, of course, are well past middle-age, hence the emphasis on attracting custom among the young. The angle of the advertising campaign, with its suggestions of sensual satisfaction, has also prompted the thought that the manufacturers might be hoping to make a connexion, subliminal or otherwise, with cocaine - currently the most modish youth-culture drug.

That was nowhere in our thoughts", insists Jerry Jones, although he admits to "speaking with a degree of naivety on this one".

The Health Education Council takes a stronger view. "A disgusting, anti-social habit", said its spokesman. "While it is a less hazardous way of getting a daily nicotine dose, there is evidence that it can cause nasal cancers. What we object to is putting it in young people's magazines with readership of kids who will send off for anything particularly if they think it's glamorous."

Andrew Tyler

moreover... Miles Kington

## Interviews: an expert speaks

Q. What is an interview?

A. An interview is an encounter between an unknown person and a famous person for which the unknown person gets paid but the celebrity does not.

Q. Why should a celebrity undergo this ordeal?

A. To keep in touch with the public while only having to meet one of them. To put straight mistakes made by the previous interviewer. To publicize a book or film. Because he has been told to.

Q. What does the interviewer get out of it?

A. An autograph for his children.

Q. What does it mean when an interviewer says: "He paused and thought deeply before replying"?

A. It means the celebrity is trying to remember the answer he always gives to this question.

Q. Does he always give the same answers?

A. Yes.

Q. Why?

A. Because he is always asked the same questions.

Q. How does an interviewer prepare for an interview?

A. He looks up cuttings of previous interviews with the celebrity to see what kind of questions have been asked before.

Q. And then?

A. He asks them again.

Q. What if the interviewer actually does ask different, new questions?

A. The celebrity pauses and thinks deeply, then gives the same old answers.

Q. What is the question most often asked in interviews?

A. "What sort of difference has fame made to your private life?"

Q. What is the answer to that question?

A. "It means I have to suffer interviews by odious little nerds like you."

Q. Does he actually say that?

A. No. He says: "I have very little private life, but I owe everything to the public, and never resent their intrusion."

Q. Does the celebrity manage to correct mistakes made by previous interviewers?

A. Yes.

Q. Does this make him happy?

A. No. A new interviewer always makes new mistakes.

Q. What is the difference between a good interviewer and a bad interviewer?

A. A bad interviewer, when writing his piece, always mentions where it took place: "As we took tea together in the Ritz", or "Sitting in his elegant work-room, hung with 'Hockneys', or 'From his hotel bedroom overlooking the Thames'. This gives the false impression that the interview will somehow be different from other interviews; a good interviewer would not give this impression.

Q. Are there any other kinds of interview?

A. Yes, the *Radio Times* interview. This always takes place during the actual production of the star's programme, as if to create the impression that the interviewer is talking to him during the white-hot moment of creation.

Q. And is this the impression created?

A. No. We get the impression that the star is too busy to see the interviewer.

Q. How does the interviewer describe the celebrity?

A. As smaller than I had expected.

Q. What do celebrities most like talking about?

A. Their new books or films. But they find this difficult.

Q. Why?

A. Because interviewers prefer talking about their old books and films.

Q. How long does an interview take?

A. About an hour less than the interviewer contrives to suggest.

Q. Why do so many interviewers end: "And there, regrettably, I had to leave it."

A. Because he is being kicked out.

Q. Why?

A. Because someone else is waiting to interview the celebrity. And there, regrettably, we shall have to leave it.

CONCISE CROSSWORD  
(No 211)

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## FRIDAY PAGE

# The unexpected midwife

Today's liberated parents may pride themselves on encouraging their daughters to become medical students rather than student nurses, but how many would feel quite so enthusiastic about nurturing their sons' ambitions to become midwives?

Whether we approve of sexual stereotyping or not, we still associate some occupations with one sex rather than the other: we expect long-distance lorry drivers to be male; we expect midwives to be female. It was hardly surprising, therefore, that when Philip Chalmers told his mother he was going to train as a midwife, her reaction was rather cool.

Finally, as he packed to leave for the training course in London, she confessed that she would not have liked a man to deliver any of her four children. Undeterred, Philip went ahead and became the eighth man to qualify as a midwife at the Whittington Hospital in north London. He is still a rarity.

So what were his reasons for wanting to become a midwife? Philip grins. Small, slight, blond and bespectacled, he bears little resemblance to the matronly figure of the cartoon midwife.

Now aged 23, he was born in Oxford but moved to Merseyside while still a child. He originally considered training as a teacher or social worker but plumped for nursing in the end because he had had enough of school and could start training as a nurse at 16 years old.

He qualified as State Registered Nurse, worked as staff nurse on both acute surgical and genito-urinary wards. Then he decided he would like to work in an Accident and Emergency unit.

He explains: "When I did my general nursing training, men were given no training in obstetrics at all. I felt that if I wanted to work in A and E it was important to know how to cope if a woman was brought in good, strong labour, for instance."

Training locally as a midwife turned out to be impossible. No one would accept him. Eventually, Philip contacted the Central Midwives Board which referred him to the Whittington. In 1981, when Philip started his course, this was

one of only two hospitals where men could train as midwives. (The other was in Scotland).

Men were admitted under an experimental scheme, set up in 1976 to see whether midwifery should, despite the Sex Discrimination Act, remain the preserve of women.

Regional health authorities can no longer refuse to accept men on midwifery courses simply on the grounds of their sex. Women, it was felt, would now accept male midwives just as they accept male doctors.

Yet it is still too early to say whether there will now be a sudden influx of men into midwifery. Despite governmental decrees, there is still some hostility towards male midwives.

Philip says: "Women are asked

when they come for their booking in appointment at the antenatal clinic whether they have any objections to being seen by a male midwife. Very few say 'yes' – usually women with strong religious or cultural reasons who would also ask to be seen by a woman doctor.

"The question of husbands objecting never seems to arise. Most men who come in with their wives once labour has started are actually quite submissive.

"In some ways you have to work harder to overcome any feelings a woman might have about you as a man – the 'you can't have a baby, you can't breastfeed, so how can you tell me what I should do?' attitude.

"It probably is easier for a woman to identify with another woman, but I've found that you simply have to show you know what you're talking about. After all, half the female midwives haven't had babies, either."

Certainly the women I spoke to, waiting patiently for their antenatal appointments in the clinic at the hospital, seemed unconcerned at the prospect of a male midwife. Kim White, a postman's wife, aged 24 summed it up: "What difference could it make? When you're pregnant, all you are worried about is the baby. As long as the people looking after you know what they are doing it doesn't matter what sex they are. You are seen by male

midwives." Philip Chalmers thinks this argument is a red herring. "It's all nonsense. In any case it hardly ever arises. When you are a student midwife, you should never be left unsupervised anyway, and once you have qualified you usually have students with you. If you are a responsible person who has built up a good relationship with a woman, she'd have to have a pretty warped sense of humour to accuse you of anything. And you'd certainly have

to be pretty weird to try to take advantage."

Feminists, too, while presumably supporting the principle of equal opportunity elsewhere, have argued against the introduction of male midwives. Men, they say, have always resented the power women have traditionally held as healers, herbalists and midwives.

Admitting male midwives into the profession, according to some feminists, is like opening the doors to the enemy. Even midwives who would never dream of calling themselves feminist, suspect – rather more prosaically – that men who want to qualify as midwives see the job as an opportunity of furthering a career in general nursing, rather than a vocation in itself.

Philip feels it is unfair to use this as a reason for discouraging men to train as midwives. "Fifty per cent of all qualified midwives don't practise and so far there have been so few qualified men that it is ridiculous to make assumptions about whether men will practise once they are qualified or not."

"I don't want to rise all the way up the career ladder. Some women just resent men in general and are very bitter about their being

involved in what they assume is a female role."

Since he qualified five months ago, Philip has been working on the ante-natal ward at the Whittington. So far he has no plans to move on. "I want to stay until I can say I'm really a midwife. It can place at much as you like, provided you meet two criteria: that the bet is in place in the first 11 weeks of pregnancy and that you provide the qualification to the full. The role of the midwife is fairly limited in most civilized countries."

Meanwhile he expects the whole first about male midwives to die down as a few more men enter the profession and it becomes a relatively normal thing for men to do."

And, he says with a smile, he is a normal man and does have a girl friend. "In general nursing you always get those sly comments on a ward, suggestion that all female nurses are easy and all male nurses are gay. It's very annoying when you are simply trying to do your work. But it doesn't happen so much on 'middy'."

"I've learnt a lot and it's given me a lot of confidence. It's nice to know how to deliver a baby – although that's only the tiniest part of being a midwife. And now my mother is quite proud of me!"

Lee Rodwell

## I miss the glow other husbands get at the door



I know when there is a crisis. The bed is empty when I wake in the morning and there is a note on the top of the fridge. It generally contains two pieces of information. First, the unspeakable name of some hotel in an unknown country and second, a list of misfunctions about the house. Our friends believe that we have lived together now continuously for nearly 20 years because it is just not possible to generate a divorce-worthy row through fridge notes.

My wife has a career and is demonstrably better at it than most men. She is responsible for budgets running into tens of millions of pounds from Dacca to Dublin, as well as the United Kingdom.

She has her own bank account, of course, but somewhere along the way she has got herself a joint account on mine, for – she said – the household expenses. This trapped me with the first law of woman: no matter how much a woman earns, she will spend your money too.

The note on the fridge just states that the waste disposal unit won't dispose, the tap leaks in the bathroom and the man who came to

clean the carpets (to supervise whom I had to take time off work) allowed the legs of the table to leave brown stains. There has emerged a sort of demarcation line between what is, or rather what she says is, man's work and what isn't. It tends to be the time-consuming, boring things that fall to me, while she orders the wine.

You would think that, given all this free time, I could enjoy a bachelor's life, but the house is so feminine as to be misleading. Just look at the bathroom: six bottles of shampoo, three of conditioner, a

heap of leg shavers, 27 oblong packets containing party used eyeshadow, a jug containing brushes, pots of blusher, foundation cream, cleanser and moisturizer, soaps of lavender and sticks and sticks of lipstick. The hoard is the result of a propensity to stock against the next world famine in essentials and a determination to try out all the products of her trade.

For me it constitutes a barrier against making new friends of the right sort. Innocent folk at the office believe that I am married. They come in for a drink but never actually see "her". Wives, of course, are expected always to be at home to welcome their men. Mine never is. Yet there is all that stuff in the bathroom. Eventually an unspoken rumour hovers in the air. I don't have a wit but a secret transvestite passion.

I must confess to missing, though, that warm glow other husbands get when they are received at the door after a hard day, by their loving wives.

Then one day he comes home, having as usual assimilated the City Business Library on the way, to be met at the door with the full blast of a woman scorned. He has missed an anniversary, forgotten he promised

to take her out to dinner/operations.

Outside the home things get even livelier. Madam works for a conglomerate with a human face.

From time to time the firm recognises that great support is given in the home. Invitations are sent personally to join in the fun.

Unfortunately the organization has not yet grasped the fact that it employs a female managing director. I get an invitation which gives a list of activities to keep me amused while Madam is discussing current cost accounting with her peers. I may attend a fashion show at 11am, followed by some tips from Leonardo da Vinci on a hairstyle suitable for my facial contours.

The man with a managing director woman in his life is a lonely man. There are few men foolish enough to stay around long on this battlefield. Other men, with only women to manage their lives, treat him with a mixture of awe, envy, disdain, suspicion, amusement, concern, curiosity and anxiety. He knows, though, that he is a pioneer.

Tom Shaw

Where you left it, darling.

It is not like that for a man with a managing director wife. There is no realising that about how little Tristram was late at school and how his friend Samantha next door was found to have nits. Oh no. She wants his views on the implications of the drop in the price of oil for talcum powder in Italy.

Then one day he comes home, having as usual assimilated the City Business Library on the way, to be met at the door with the full blast of a woman scorned. He has missed an anniversary, forgotten he promised

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Tom Shaw

## If she gets her present now, your Christmas is made.

Here's a clever way to treat your wife – and yourself – to something special.

Simply buy her a Kenwood Gourmet now. She'll be so delighted with this unique food processor she'll have to try it out immediately.

And then all those cakes, puddings and mince pies she makes will taste gorgeous at Christmas.

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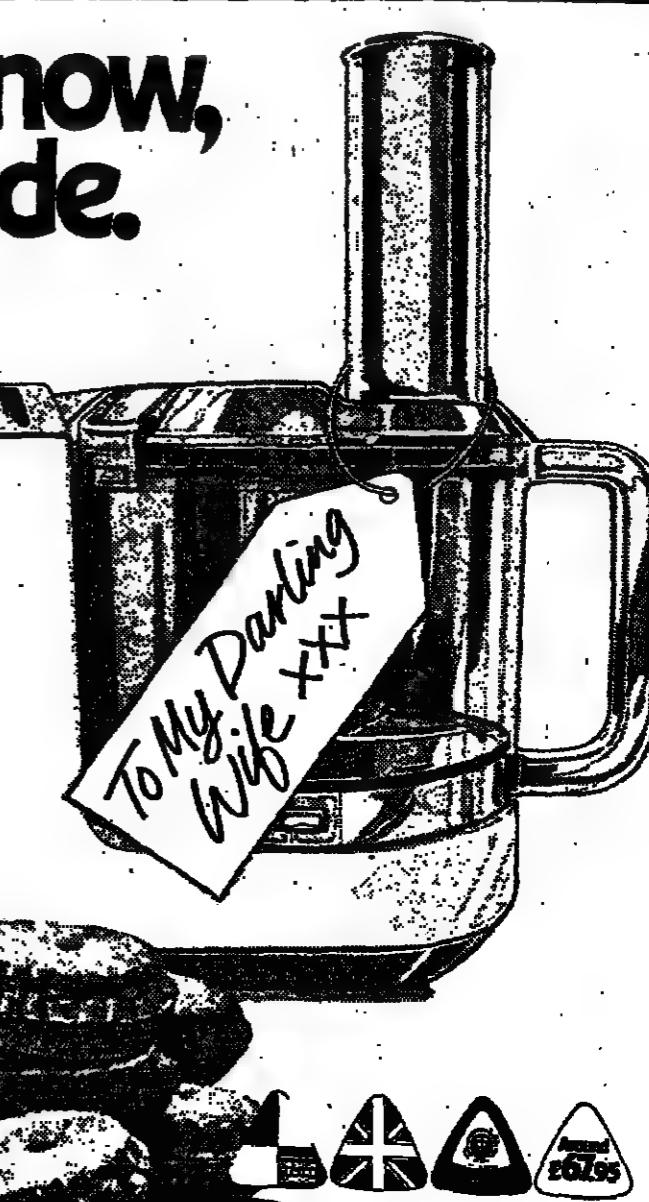
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So come on, be sneaky and buy her a Gourmet now. That way your Christmas will be made!

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KENWOOD GOURMET



### TALKBACK

#### Late for school?

From Mrs D. A. Robinson, 31 Inglewood, Woking, Surrey

I was interested to read Mary Gilbert's Comment "A Right to Learn" (Friday Page, November 18). My daughter, born on June 1, was five years three months old when she started school in September 1982.

It has gradually dawned on me since that no only did she miss the special teaching and understanding of a reception class – because she was already five, she joined a class that had mostly been at school since January – but she will be in the First School a year less than her friends who are only six months older.

#### No free tickets

From Alan G. Smith, 68 Denmead House, Highcliffe Drive, London SW15

I can assure Mrs Virginia Smith (Talkback, November 11) that her distaste for the expression "meal-ticket" is shared by those who, like me, are expected to be paying for it. Nevertheless, that is what it is.

By her own admission she is capable of supporting herself and her former husband is supporting his children by

#### Crumbs

The quantity of fresh breadcrumbs needed for the Christmas pudding recipe published on Wednesday is 170 g (6 oz). White or wholemeal crumbs may be used.

We apologise for the omission.

### MEDICAL BRIEFING

#### Knife danger

The tragic death of a teenage butcher's boy has prompted doctors from East Birmingham Hospital to warn of the dangers of the trade. Their cautionary tale could equally apply in the kitchen. The boy's knife slipped while he was boning meat and he stabbed himself in the right groin. Although the wound was only small he bled profusely because the femoral artery had been severed. He was working alone and only arrived too late to save his life.

The injury, Butcher's Thigh, is well known to surgeons: the meat trade should be aware of it. Drs David Sproson and Martin Shelley report in the *Lancet* that it can easily be repaired by surgeons and the injured person will survive as long as firm pressure is applied to stop the bleeding. The doctor say warning notices should be put up in areas where meat is prepared.

#### Baby hope

 Brain damage and handicap may not in future be the inevitable consequence for a child if the birth is difficult and the baby is starved of oxygen, doctors at University College Hospital in London have discovered. Each year thousands of babies are left handicapped for life because they were "birth asphyxiated" and until now it had been assumed that nothing could be done to prevent brain damage.

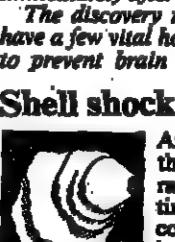
But at the annual meeting of Action Research for the Crippled Child last week, Professor Osmond Reynolds, Professor of Neonatal Paediatrics at UCH, described studies on seven babies who were badly starved of oxygen during birth which indicate that although the initial lack of oxygen, the baby's brain cells don't actually start to die until several hours later.

Professor Reynolds and his colleagues discovered this "latent period" when using nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy – a technique well known to analytical chemists but rarely before used on human beings – to measure the energy content of the baby's brain cells.

To their surprise, the energy content of the brain cells of those babies who suffered a lack of oxygen as they were born did not start to fall immediately after birth.

The discovery means that doctors have a few vital hours in which to act to prevent brain damage.

#### Shell shock

 Another warning on the dangers of eating raw shellfish – this time oysters – has come from public health experts.

A report in the *British Medical Journal* describes how hundreds of people who enjoyed Pacific oysters at parties in London – all on the same premises – last January, subsequently paid for the pleasure.

Around 1,300 people were fed and 40 per cent of those later contacted were ill. Their gastroenteritis developed a day and a half after the reception and, on average, each person had to take a day off work. One person was admitted to hospital.

The public health scientists believe that the illness was caused by a virus carried by the oysters and that this was not washed out of the oysters after harvesting, although bacterial contaminants were eradicated.

There is an urgent need to find ways of removing viruses from oysters, they say.

Olivia Timbs and Lorraine Fraser



## Roger, and almost out

If Professor John Ashworth, former Think Tank chief scientist, has retained all his schoolboy cunning, there's no knowing where he might end up. On Wednesday he told the Royal Signals Institution how, as a signaller in the Combined Cadet Force while at school in Devon, he discovered that schools in the Channel Islands took in the afternoon examination papers which mainland schools took in the morning. He accordingly began transmitting the contents via the signals hut to friends in Jersey. Although discovered and demoted - and on the brink of expulsion - he received his first blinding impression of the impact that modern technology could have on a cumbersome bureaucracy: something that was to stand him in good stead during his Think Tank days.

• Patrick Cosgrave, a former special adviser to Margaret Thatcher, gave a television interview in his home town, Dublin, last weekend. During it, he insisted that he wished to be considered British since his "compensation" of being Irish made him a British Tory.

### Scrub it

Although Thorn EMI Screen Entertainment has a female top executive, Verity Lambert, other divisions in the company seem to have a rather outmoded view of women. A Thorn EMI Domestic Electrical Appliances advertisement for its Kenwood Gourmet is headed, "If she gets her present now, your Christmas is made." It then suggests that husbands buy their wives a Gourmet but hand it over well before December 25 to ensure a steady supply of cakes, puddings and mince pies. "So come on, be sneaky and buy her a Gourmet now," it advises. Such a good idea, because with all the cooking out of the way, she'll be able to spend the day itself scrubbing the doortstep.

• Mr Manilal Patel has made a wise choice of political party. A caption in the current issue of *The Social Democrat* says that Mr Patel, a member of Harrow SDP, "has no time for political activity".

### Picket line-out

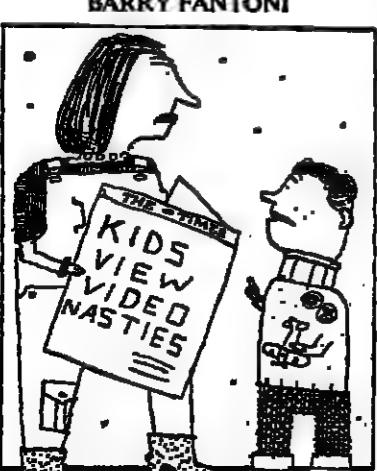
Hot on the heels of Julie Welch's fine television play *Those Glory Days*, about a girl obsessed with football, another female reporter is stirring in a true-life drama of her own. At 23, Joanna Davies is a specialist writer of rugby - the first woman member, in fact, of the Rugby Writers' Club. She is also "mother" of the chapel (office branch) at the Richmond and Twickenham Times and leader of the 13 National Union of Journalists members who have defied David Dimbleby by striking since October 17. Several of her striking colleagues are old enough to be her father, who is also a rugby fanatic and, of course, a Welshman.

• Volume 23 Part 2 of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society list of publications includes a pamphlet entitled *The Cranley Gardens Hoard*.

### Prophets of gloom

The staff of the monthly bulletin *Memo* (Middle East and Mediterranean Outlook) have something that other journalists would give their souls for: the gift of clairvoyance. Under the heading "Next month's pointer", it says: "Watch for increased violence by the Muslim Brotherhood in support of the PLO and against President Assad of Syria and President Mubarak of Egypt... Full story in the next issue."

BARRY FANTONI



"I saw one, but it wasn't nearly as nasty as the Falklands war"

### Eye on profits

London Weekend Television is using some emotive language about its financial position. The retiring chairman, John Freeman, referred to "the present bleeding of ITV" and this week's *Mail on Sunday* blamed the Government for the fact that the company's series *Marlowe - Private Eye* has yet to be shown. The article claimed that because of a financial crisis in ITV, profits were down and levy exemption could not be claimed on non-existent profits. Ergo, since the cost of Raymond Chandler's *Marlowe* could not be recouped, the series could not be shown. In fact, LWT had quite a good financial year. More to the point, it expects to have an even better on next year. If it turns out that next year's profits are high enough to merit a levy on the company which will allow it to recover its costs on *Marlowe* - that's when the series will be screened.

PHS

# Building up a prison crisis

by Andrew Rutherford

The Home Secretary, Mr Leon Brittan, defended his successful bid for additional prison construction and staff recruitment with two assertions. He maintains that the prison estate has been neglected, saying that no new prisons were built until 1958. He also says that 10,600 new prison places (including 4,000 "gained" by refurbishment) will end overcrowding by the close of the century. Both propositions are highly questionable.

Far from being neglected, the prison system in England and Wales has received considerable capital investment since 1945 when total capacity stood at 14,300. By 1957, although no new prisons had been built, capacity had been increased by 9,000 places through a combination of property acquisitions and extensions to existing institutions. Since that date a further 15,000 places have been added to the system by extensions and new constructions. There are now 121 institutions compared with 78 in 1957.

The increase in prison staff has been even more spectacular, rising between 1960 and 1982 from 8,250 to 25,700. In fact during this period the number of prison officers rose at twice the rate of the increase in prison population. While the number of civil servants fell by 9 per cent between 1979 and 1982, the number of prison staff rose by

13 per cent and the additional 5,500 staff now to be recruited will account for virtually all additions to the civil service.

The claim that by the end of the decade the capital investment programme will eradicate overcrowding is very doubtful. Home Office projections estimate the 1990 prison population at 50,000 (compared with 44,000 today), although Mr Brittan anticipates a net fall of 2,000 as a consequence of measures he has announced since becoming Home Secretary. But because of the way in which types of prisoner are allocated to particular prisons, equalising capacity and population may not end overcrowding. When such an equivalent last existed, in 1973, there were 12,000 persons sharing cells which had been designed for one person.

More significantly, there is considerable reason to doubt that the prison population will rise at the level forecasted by the Home Office. Between 1970 and 1981 a standstill in the prison population of between 37,000 and 42,000 was achieved. But by late 1981 it was clear that the standstill policy was being abandoned. William Whitelaw told the House of Commons in March 1982: "We are determined to ensure that there will be room

in the prison system for every person whom the judges and magistrates decide should go there and we will continue to do whatever is necessary for that purpose."

The real danger is that Mr Brittan's prison-building programme will send a signal to decision-makers throughout the criminal justice system that additional capacity is available. As a consequence the prison population is likely to be well in excess of 50,000 by the end of the decade and prison overcrowding will still be a major problem. The prison system remains set upon a relentless expansionist course. To break the expansionist mould will require substantial reductions in the apparatus of imprisonment so that prisons come to be regarded, throughout the criminal justice machinery, as a scarce resource.

More than 60 years ago the Home Secretary, Winston Churchill, successfully embarked on this course, and within a decade the prison population had been reduced by 50 per cent. Mr Brittan has chosen to disregard the experience of his illustrious predecessor and his legacy for the next century will be an overcrowded system of monstrous proportions.

*The author is senior lecturer in law at Southampton University and his book, *Prisons and the Process of Justice - The Reductionist Challenge*, will be published next year.*

David Watt

# Kansas corn, but don't be deterred

Having seen *The Day After* (American Broadcasting's nuclear catastrophe television film) I am sure the IBA is right to reject Mrs Whitehouse's advice and to allow it to be screened. It is not a very good film, being like most American disaster movies, full of cardboard stereotypes for characters and crude fake effects for kicks. Strangely enough, although it is not exactly for the squeamish, it pulls its punches, for in describing the effects on a small Kansas town of half a dozen 100 kiloton nuclear explosions no more than 40 miles distant, it greatly underestimates the probable devastation and horror.

It is necessary for dramatic purposes, for instance, that our hero, Jason Robards, caught in his car in flat, open country, 30 miles from the nearest blast, should be able to stumble through the flash and fire storms for 10 miles to the local hospital in order to tend to the sick for a heroic week before succumbing to radiation sickness, but it is not exactly plausible.

None the less it is not a bad film either. It will give people a jolt (which they need); it explains, in more or less truthful terms, some of what is involved; and it provides images that will return to the mind whenever one is tempted to discuss nuclear war in too detached or cerebral a fashion. For all these reasons it ought to be shown.

But what about its political significance - for I cannot see how the IBA has been able in good conscience to pronounce that "it doesn't make any political statements"? To be sure, its authors have coded their message and made no explicit appeal. But their intent is manifest in all sorts of little points and asides, particularly the very conscious portrayal of obfuscation and futility, culminating in a splendidly irrelevant presidential broadcast delivered in the best Reagan homespun style on H-Day plus about six or seven.

The object of the film, clearly, is to make an emotional appeal which comes over loud and clear: "Ordinary people are more important than governments; governments cannot be justified in putting their countrymen to this kind of nuclear risk for remote principles such as freedom and justice. Deterrence is useless, because this is what happens when deterrence fails".

As a reason for banning the film, this is no better than any of the other objections. For one thing the case against deterrence - which is basically a pacifist's one - is entitled to a hearing. For another it is as foolish to ask for a movie about what happens when deterrence succeeds as it would be for one about a skyscraper that is really fire-proof, a bridge that is well designed, or an airliner that does not have a bomb in its hold and a pilot with a long, secret history of mental instability. Without these fatal flaws, there is no story.

Why, then, was I irritated and worried by the film - and in a way that its authors manifestly did not intend? No doubt I shall be told that it was because the truth is uncomfortable, especially if you don't want to believe it. But the facts as told in the film are ones I do already believe in: it is only the inference being surreptitiously hoisted on to me that I object to. I felt

Philip Howard

## Your host, the hack, sounding off

The lodger (non-rent paying) is in town all week on a charm course. The ability as a pilot? What I want from my pilots is that they should take me off and put me down safely, concentrating on the job in hand rather than the *Times* crossword between the points. I do not wish to know about their body language, their eye contacts, or whether they are kind to children. I am indignant that the lodger has spent all week, no doubt at vast expense, and partly at my expense on such fatuous and otiose games.

He says that all airlines now offer the same service at the same price, so that the only hope of attracting more customers is by sucking up to them. The best way of attracting tired businessmen, who form the majority of his passengers, he says (the lodger is a male chauvinist as well as a non-rent payer), is by sacking all the male stewards, and employing only beautiful girls as cabin staff. Topless, I ask? And how about tired businesswomen?

I can see that flying is no fun. The other day a fat cat businessman in first class carried on smoking his Havana through breakfast. Other passengers complained. Eventually the lodger, in gold braide like a bogue admiral, was summoned from the driving seat. Exercising eye contact and service-giver's authority, the lodger asked deferentially: "Would you mind putting out your cigar during breakfast, sir?" The fat cat inhaled, and blew a smoke-ring in his face.

The lodger could have thumped him: a captain is in sole command. He could have taken the cigar and stubbed it out in the airline scrambled egg. What he did was take the line of least resistance, and retreat to his cabin as if he had just remembered something important that had to be done.

People behave in an odd way in aeroplanes, because they are scared. It is the Icarus instinct, an atavistic feeling that humans are not meant to fly. I know that if I am ever travelling by plane and hear the announcement, "This is your captain, the lodger, speaking", I shall make my excuse and leave. But with this charm school nonsense, I reckon it is going to be more agreeable to go by coach anyway.

# Wanted: a stately home tax loophole

To judge from Lord Charteris's presentation of the 24th annual report by the National Memorial Heritage Fund yesterday, we might assume that all was well with our heritage. With an investment income of £1.5m (from its £24m capital), topped up by government grants of £3m, the Fund intervened successfully, and wholly within its budget, to purchase for the nation two Foussina (one for the Walker Art Gallery, one for the National); a Stubbs; a clock by Thomas Tompion for £250,000; more of Exmoor to add to the protected park; Kinder Scout and Studley Royal (including Fountains Hall) for the National Trust; the Earl Haig papers for the National Library of Scotland, and further estate land around Castle Coole, Northern Ireland.

It also refaced Castle Coole, and purchased with endowment Charles Rennie Mackintosh's masterpiece, The Hill House, Helensburgh, for the National Trust for Scotland.

That, at least, was the picture until April 1983; but those feeling reasonably happy might not have spotted that there was only one stately home among the list and that Hever Castle was saved from being a charge on the Fund only by outside intervention. Outside intervention, however, is never certain; and events since April indicate that the Fund's record of success may well be its last without significantly more government aid. For already, halfway through its new financial year, current commitments would not only exhaust the Fund's entire

current annual budget but threaten its very existence by the need to eat into capital reserves.

The Fund's terms of reference are to purchase for the nation, as part of the national memorial for the war dead, items of heritage which are of the highest quality; which are at grave risk; and which require significant financial assistance. The simple fact is that the happy figures for 1982/3 do not reflect the urgency rate - even though the Government's contribution to the Fund this year was augmented by a mad March present of £5m.

Two stately homes arrived, as it were, simultaneously: Calke Abbey in Leicestershire, requiring some £7m for purchase and endowment; the other, Belton Hall, Lincolnshire, requiring some £8m.

The Fund offered to help Belton, which was immediately at risk, and had to let Calke Abbey go. It also offered the National Trust for Scotland £2m for Fyvie Castle in Aberdeenshire, one of Scotland's ten outstanding monuments, but the outcome is still uncertain.

Looking ahead, the picture darkens. As SAVE keeps reminding us, great stately homes are rotting and crumbling from Cornwall to Cithness. Many of the fashionable post-war uses for such buildings have been eliminated by rising petrol costs or changes in social patterns: health spas, hotels, teacher training colleges, minor prep schools, TB clinics and even trade union headquarters are no longer easy options.

Indeed, the Fund, firmly believes that "the most effective and economical guardians of the National Heritage are its private owners. Our objective is to retain the characteristics of a house as a setting for the outstanding works of art it contains... Wherever possible, we seek to preserve an outstanding house and its contents intact". Not one might add, that health spas, teacher training colleges and minor prep schools managed to do that.

Of immediate concern are yet more outstanding monuments: Weston Park, Staffs - a house of 1671 in an area not over-endowed with fine stately homes open to the public; Thirlestane Castle, Lauder - a wonderful fifteenth and sixteenth-century confection transformed by Sir William Bruce (he of Holyrood) and David Bryce, in the seventeenth and nineteenth centuries; and Robert Adam's masterpiece, Kedleston Hall, Derbyshire. Looking beyond, it is not difficult to identify houses where future concern may be appropriate: Ightham Moat, Sevenoaks, The House of Gray, by William Adam, Dundee; and Mavisbank, Loanhead, also by Adam. Two other Scott examples recently passed by with no possible action: Guthrie Castle, Angus, and the magnificently restored Earshill, near St Andrews. Many of these great houses no longer have sufficient estate income to pay for their maintenance. Many are impossibly large and inconvenient. Yet, collectively, their survival is central to our heritage.

Even once financial help has been

offered and accepted, problems remain. Sometimes there is an impetus to part with one of the family's collection - such as, say, a major collection of manuscripts or drawings. The fiscal situation in Britain, unlike that in the US, militates against people being able to open their houses or donate their treasures or subscribe to charity as a way of reducing tax. Furthermore, many of these great houses are remote from public transport. If they are to be preserved for the nation, that part of the nation which is unemployed (which might best enjoy such places) is just that part which could probably not afford to reach or enter them.

The National Memorial Heritage Fund, in the long run, would prefer to see its job rendered unnecessary by tax changes, which would prevent houses of note having to be offered on the open market; and which would provide assured maintenance in return for a genuinely popular access. At the moment, a small number of stately homes are suffering from over-use and exposure: adding more to the pool would spread the load, widen the opportunity, and prevent the type of fire-rescue operation currently required to prevent the complete break-up of a great artistic estate.

Perhaps it is significant that the Fund's director, Dr Brian Lang, is a doctor of anthropology whose former skills lay in recording and protecting endangered species.

Charles McKeon



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WCIX 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

**KICKING THE FATAL HABIT**

It is with a gleam of success in its eyes that the Royal College of Physicians returns this week to its battle against smoking for the fourth time. Campaigners against the fatal habit complain with reason that it is hard to counter the tobacco industry's lavish expenditure on promotion when their resources are so much smaller. This week's report confesses gloomily that "Evaluation of individual anti-smoking campaigns shows that none has ever produced more than a transient effect". The graph dips for a few months and then recovers. But repeated campaigns and persistent pressure have at last had a cumulative effect against the colourful allurements of the hoardings; in the past few years the number of cigarettes smoked in Britain and the number of people smoking them have both begun to move decisively downwards.

The harm that they do to health can manifest itself ten or twenty years later, so the full effects of the change in habit have yet to be felt. But a clear downward trend in the incidence of lung cancer among men of all ages (the situation is more complex among women) already enables the campaigners to point to results that are far more extensive and impressive than ever before. The change in public attitudes is obvious everywhere: smoking in public in the vicinity of non-smokers is increasingly seen as bad manners even where it is not prohibited outright.

But many thousands still die prematurely every year because of diseases associated with smoking. It shortens the lives of far more people than crime, suicide, drinking, even road accidents (for every young man who will die on the roads forty will die early because they

smoke). A scourge so destructive requires society to make strenuous efforts to combat it. But if the scourge appears to be in decline in any case, the authorities may feel that the pressure is off them to assist the process.

Smoking may still be by far the most important avoidable source of disease in Britain, and disease associated with it may still be higher here than in most developed countries. But the smoker's vote is not insignificant, while the revenue he provides to the Treasury is very significant indeed. It would be hard indeed to find a source of revenue to replace it. However, it is probably less these calculations than a straightforward reluctance to interfere in market processes which has caused this Government to be too supine about discouraging smoking. Its informal treaty of 1982 with the industry effectively gave up the attempt to bring in any further controls on promotion before December 1983.

As a simple issue of personal freedom it would be quite wrong as well as dangerously impracticable to try to ban cigarette sales outright. The individual should be given latitude for dangerous and even foolish activities that endanger only himself (much has been made recently of "passive smoking", but on present evidence that remains more a matter of offence than serious medical risk). But society is fully justified in restraining advertising, where temptations are still so clever, pervasive and subtle, and in ensuring that those who are offended by the practice need not suffer in public places.

Newspapers are in an ambiguous position in calling for extra controls on cigarette advertising, because we carry them ourselves,

along with many other advertisements for products and political positions that we do not endorse. There is a case to be made on freedom of speech grounds for not suppressing publicity that is within the law. It is not inconsistent to call at the same time for the law to be made stronger. The example of Norway shows that a complete ban can have a dramatic effect on consumption, but at the very least there is a need for more limits to the scale of advertising, and for greater prominence to be given to the warning messages that it should carry. The guidelines intended to rule out publicity that identifies cigarette smoking with wealth, sexual success and the healthy life have only provoked the advertisers to greater feats of ingenuity.

The Government now has a large majority, including members who have a wide knowledge of modern local government. It should and can afford the time to take a long hard look, as well as advice from those experienced in the field of local politics, to see how to achieve local accountability through the ballot box.

While the selective rate-limitation scheme may have immediate attractions to the short-sighted, it is a further step towards central authoritarian power and no substitute for electoral accountability on local matters.

Our Secretary of State may call for reductions in expenditure, but others may require the reverse and I shall be surprised if Parliament does not have the wisdom to apply rigorous statutory controls over the power of selection.

Yours faithfully,  
ROGER PARKER-JERVIS,  
Chairman,  
Buckinghamshire County Council,  
County Hall,  
Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire.

**Delusions about rate-capping***From the Chairman of Buckinghamshire County Council*

Sir, The needs and resources of every local authority are different and if Mr Geoffrey Finberg (November 17) accepts the presumption, as it seems he does, that a few people in the Department of Environment can decide exactly what each authority should spend, he deludes himself. The present shambles on block grants shows that.

Finance officers are already spending endless expensive hours on the counterproductive and wasteful process of unravelling at a local level the tangle created for us in Whitehall, which the electorate has no hope of understanding.

Should a general rate-capping scheme ever be applied the bureaucratic cost and confusion which would result is something no Conservative could contemplate with equanimity.

The Government now has a large majority, including members who have a wide knowledge of modern local government. It should and can afford the time to take a long hard look, as well as advice from those experienced in the field of local politics, to see how to achieve local accountability through the ballot box.

While the selective rate-limitation scheme may have immediate attractions to the short-sighted, it is a further step towards central authoritarian power and no substitute for electoral accountability on local matters.

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Yours faithfully,  
ROGER PARKER-JERVIS,  
Chairman,  
Buckinghamshire County Council,  
County Hall,  
Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR****Soviet response to US missiles***From Mr Spartak Beglov*

Sir, You report (November 23) the green light given by the West German Bundestag to the deployment of Pershing-2 and cruise missiles. Serious international repercussions will be triggered off by the deployment of United States first-strike missiles in Europe.

First, general strategic stability will be weakened because the now existing military balance will be upset in the most sensitive area of East-West relations. The new generation of weapons are capable of provoking nuclear war in such a way that either side may find itself in a situation where it will have neither an opportunity, nor time to retain control over the developments.

Second, a new round of the arms race will be inevitable. The Soviet Union and its Warsaw treaty allies will have to take measures in response to the deployment of weapons which give the United States a capability to launch a strategic nuclear strike against the Soviet Union from the nearest positions in Western Europe.

At present the Soviet Union does not have this opportunity in respect of the United States. Depriving the Pentagon of the temptation to bring these weapons into action means giving an adequate answer, both on the operational-tactical plane and in respect of United States territory.

The Americans must inevitably feel the difference between the situation which existed before the deployment of their missiles in Western Europe and the post-deployment situation in which they will be faced with a new level of threat commensurate with the threats they inflict on the USSR.

Third, a blow will be dealt at the Geneva talks. The Soviet delegation has declared on the cessation of the current round of the talks without the fixation of any date for their resumption. The situation at the talks on strategic nuclear weapons is being complicated as well.

Fourth, the very attitude of the West to some agreements with the East, which now form the basis of

detente, will be questioned even more. West Germany is committed under the Moscow and other eastern treaties to contribute in every way to the assertion of the principle of non-use of force, and of renunciation of the threat of force in relations with eastern neighbours.

Soviet leaders have stressed that they will continue to work for these invariable goals - of strengthening peace and curbing the arms race in a much more difficult situation.

The Soviet Union will continue cooperating with all forces that are coming out for the ultimate triumph of reason. For the sake of this it will be necessary to review the still existing foundations of East-West cooperation and all factors in East-West relations, which were engendered by detente and which still maintain its viability.

In other words, it will be necessary to find all possible means of compensating for the slow-down of detente in the military sphere by the consolidation of those forces that stand for the deepening of cooperation in the economic, cultural and political aspects of European detente.

A conference on confidence-building measures, security and disarmament in Europe which opens in Stockholm next January offers a good opportunity for demonstrating the alternative to the explosive situation created by the process of oversaturating Western Europe with US nuclear weapons.

It is with the express purpose of preventing the worst from happening that the Soviet Union and the Warsaw treaty organisation see their duty to Europe in depriving, by their counter-measures, the owners of Pershing-2s and cruise missiles of any temptation to risk a nuclear catastrophe.

Yours sincerely,  
SPARTAK BEGLOV,  
Chief Political Observer,  
Novosti Press Agency,  
4 Zubovskiy Boulevard,  
Moscow.  
November 24.

**Better bets for Calke Abbey?***From Mr Nicholas Baker, MP for Dorset North (Conservative)*

Sir, Lord Gibson, Chairman of the National Trust, makes in his letter about Calke Abbey (November 21) a number of assumptions which ought to be questioned.

First, the quality of building and contents of Calke Abbey do not, for all the interest of a house where the interior has remained unchanged for many years, come into the same category as, say, Belton House.

Second, there is an assumption that public money granted to the National Heritage Memorial Fund should be an automatic source of funds for the National Trust. Lord Charteris has often stated that this fund is not a milch cow but a safety net. The trustees in their wisdom have worked wonders for the heritage, often in partnership with others.

The National Trust already appears to have been the largest single recipient of NHMF money, in addition to £8m for Belton House, there was £2m for Studley Royal (Fountains Abbey), £1.5m for Canons Ashby and at least two other grants of more than £250,000.

No doubt the trustees will continue to give generous support to the trust, but Lord Gibson should not assume that the fund can be tapped whenever the trust sees fit to make an expensive acquisition.

Third, I find disturbing Lord Gibson's implied suggestion that the National Trust is the main or usual candidate for houses such as Calke Abbey. The National Trust must be selective about its acquisitions and to contemplate even one major rescue operation a year would be to change the nature of the National Trust and to strain the resources of the NHMF.

I suggest we have not heard enough about other ways of securing the future of Calke Abbey and the provision of other financial or fiscal assistance to this end.

Yours faithfully,  
NICHOLAS BAKER,  
House of Commons.  
November 23.

**Video violence***From Mr David Holbrook*

Sir, Mr Butterworth (November 16) is confusing reality and culture. Of course one learns from reality and I too have been exposed as a young man to corpses and mutilation in war - and I hope I learnt from that terrible experience that we must work hard to control human nature.

This is the way God showed himself to us in Christ. He did it for all to see on a hill outside Jerusalem. May we not therefore call the resulting faith "public"?

Yours faithfully,  
FRANK WESTON,  
Archdeacon's Lodgings,  
Christ Church,  
Oxford.

**Divisions between Church and state***From the Bishop of Jarrow*

Sir, I am not sure what your leading article, "The way of the Cross" (November 21), is saying, but it appears to me to be once again making what I consider a false dichotomy between the individual and the corporate, the public and the private. They are, given various caveats, opposite sides of the same coin: the incarnation.

This too, applies to areas such as the Establishment, which both needs to be redeemed, but is also the instrument of redemption.

This is part, I believe, of what Archbishop John Habgood was saying at York last Friday. Obviously there are matters of division between Church and state, but your leading article seems to me to be muddling the dividing lines.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL JARROW,  
Mellbridge House,  
Gilegate, Durham.

Communication from God to a person is normally through another person, so the knowledge of God is mediated through the life of the community. It is therefore a contradiction to treat such a gift as a private intellectual or spiritual possession.

"The way of the Cross" is therefore no private pilgrimage: it is the road by which we learn the costliness of relationships, the paradox that only when we respond to God by giving our lives away do we truly find them.

This is the way God showed himself to us in Christ. He did it for all to see on a hill outside Jerusalem. May we not therefore call the resulting faith "public"?

Yours faithfully,  
FRANK WESTON,  
Archdeacon's Lodgings,  
Christ Church,  
Oxford.

From Rear-Admiral J. E. Dyer-South

Sir, As Dr Slack (November 21) writes, your leader of November 21 was extraordinary - in its boldness as well as in its context.

It may, as your critics argue, have had little to do with theology, but it had a bearing on relevance to the experience of so many of us of disparate persuasions, that when you describe there is "the way of the Cross".

Your insistence upon the individual and his struggles, eloquent though it is, fails to do justice to the Christian understanding of God as Trinity. This doctrine points to the conviction that the most important of all truths about God is that he is "relatedness". Human beings are therefore most perfectly conforming to the image of God not when they are alone but when they are in relationship.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN E. DYER-SOUTH,  
15 Saint Cross Back Street,  
Winchester,  
Hampshire.

November 22.

patriarchate which is somehow also democratically elective, is the last straw.

Yours faithfully,  
ANTHONY BRYER,  
33 Croft Road,  
Birmingham,  
November 22.

along the Settle-Carlisle line were packed throughout the summer and trains had to be increased from four to six or seven-coach size.

Moreover, the line is an indispensable part of Britain's rail network. On the morning that the closure notice was published trains were passing through Appleby station both north and southbound every few minutes. Yet again there had been a power failure on the electrified line north of Preston, causing large-scale diversions along the Settle-Carlisle line. Q.E.D.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

ANDREW CONNELL,  
36 Borrowmoor Road,  
Appleby,  
Cumbria.  
November 17.

It may well be that the full record will show that the desire within the British establishment to reach an accommodation with Nazism and use it to crush Communism was the main reason for the development of the German military threat to the peace of the world - that it was the pacifism and failure to learn which are so often blamed.

The documents which are still to be released could shed light on these vital issues and it would be scandalous for them to remain closed on the pretext that their release will cause distress or threaten national security.

Yours etc.,  
STAN NEWENS,

The Leys,  
18 Park Hill,  
Harlow,  
Essex.

November 17.

It may well be that the fall record will show that the desire within the British establishment to reach an accommodation with Nazism and use it to crush Communism was the main reason for the development of the German military threat to the peace of the world - that it was the pacifism and failure to learn which are so often blamed.

The documents which are still to be released could shed light on these vital issues and it would be scandalous for them to remain closed on the pretext that their release will cause distress or threaten national security.

Yours etc.,  
STAN NEWENS,

The Leys,  
18 Park Hill,  
Harlow,  
Essex.

November 17.

Maternal pride

From Lord Allen of Abbeystead

Sir, I notice an increasing tendency (from which you yourself, Sir, have not been immune) to refer to the Westminster Parliament as the Mother of Parliaments.

It is perhaps worth recalling that

what John Bright said was that "England is the Mother of Parliaments".

Yours faithfully,

ALLEN OF ABBEYDALE  
House of Lords.





**Titan, Tintoretto and Veronese are the star attractions of *The Genius of Venice 1500-1600*, an exhibition which opens today at the Royal Academy of Arts in London. This Special Report looks at the cultural richness of the Veneto - the region from which nearly all the artists in the exhibition come - ranging from the Roman arena and theatre at Verona in the west to contemporary painting and glass-making in Venice**

by John Julius Norwich

**The cinquecento**, the century covered by the exhibition that opens today, shows us the Venetian genius in the fullness of its flower. The Renaissance had come late to the lagoon. Even in the 1440s, when Bartolomeo Bon completed his gloriously flamboyant entrance to the Doge's Palace, the Porta della Carta, Giotto was still the rule; there was not a single classically-inspired building in the city until Antonio Gambello's triumphal gateway to the Arsenal, erected in 1460. Before that time, Venetian art, whether in the form of painting, sculpture or architecture, must have seemed distinctly quaint to sophisticated young Florentines brought up on Masaccio and Ghirlandaio, Brunelleschi and Donatello.

There were several reasons for this, and the first lay in the character of the Venetians themselves. Always doers rather than thinkers, they mistrusted abstract theories; their response to beauty was more sensual than intellectual. Architecturally, moreover, they had refined the Gothic style to such a pitch of virtuosity that they were understandably reluctant to abandon it.

It is arguable, too, that they were strongly affected during the middle decades of the century by the new wave of Byzantine influences brought by refugees fleeing from the Turkish advance.

In its formative years, the Republic had always drawn its cultural inspiration from Byzantium rather than Rome, and the Venetians - led by the celebrated Cardinal Bessarion, the former Orthodox Archbishop of Nicaea who had accompanied the Byzantine Emperor to the Council of Florence and had then remained in Italy to become a Prince of the Roman Church - may well have felt more instinctive sympathy with the ideas of recent immigrants than with the humanist teachings of Florence.

But when the Renaissance

came at last to Venice, the city's artists quickly made up for lost time. By the end of the century, thanks to the families of the Bellini and the Vivarini, to Carlo Crivelli and Andrea Mantegna, Venice had become a serious rival to Florence. Cima and Carpaccio, Giorgione and Titian were already at work, as were architects such as the Lombardi, Gambello, Giorgio Spavento and Mauro Coducci.

Even at this early stage, one cannot help noticing how many of these artists were not, strictly speaking, Venetians. Giambattista Cima came from Conegliano in the Alpine foothills; Titian from Pieve di Cadore in the high Dolomites; Mantegna was born near Padua; Giorgione in Castelfranco. Coducci and Palma Vecchio were from Gerganico. The Lombardi were indeed Lombards; equally self-evidently, among the younger generation, Jacopo Bassano from Bassano del Grappa, Paolo Veronese from Verona.

The most influential of all Renaissance architects, Andrea Palladio, was a Paduan who spent his working life in Vicenza. Native-born Venetians, among the artists of the first league, were the Bellini, Crivelli, Carpaccio, Tintoretto and Lorenzo Lotto; but very few others.

This, however, should occasion no surprise. As early as the fourteenth century, Venice had found that she could no longer remain aloof from developments on the mainland. By 1405, she had become mistress of a considerable area of north-eastern Italy, including the cities of Padua, Vicenza and Verona; half a century later her empire extended from the Po to the Alps and from the Adda - only a few miles from Milan - almost to Trieste.

It was for long fashionable to date her decline from the moment that she turned her attention away from Byzantium and the east, the source of her immense commercial prosperity, towards the *terraferma*

and the ceaseless turbulence of Italian politics - thereby putting her trust no longer in the sea, the element where she had always been supreme, but rather in the land, to which she had always felt herself a stranger.

In fact, she had little choice: the persistent machinations of her enemies and the need to protect her European markets made her policy the only possible one. It proved, moreover, surprisingly successful: most of her mainland dominion remained until the coming of Napoleon.

It was in the east, and not in the west, that the storm-clouds

were gathering. The fall of Constantinople to the 21-year-old Sultan Mehmet II was only a beginning; on land and sea, the Turks were continuing their westward advance. In 1470 they captured Negroponte (Euboea), the Republic's chief colony in the eastern Mediterranean; Lemnos followed a year or two later, together with nearly all Venetian possessions on the Greek and Albanian mainland: more alarming still, bands of mounted Turkish irregulars had overrun the territory of Friuli immediately north-east of the lagoon, so close that the flames from the burning villages could

be seen from the top of the Campanile of St Mark. In 1480 it was the turn of the Ionian Islands. Venice managed to retain Corfu, but at the end of the century she sustained yet another grievous loss - Modone and Corone, her twin colonies in the south-western Peloponnesus.

Thus, as the *cinquecento* began, the Most Serene Republic found itself on the defensive; nor was its morale improved by the recent news that Vasco da Gama had returned safely to Lisbon, having completed the return journey to India by way of the Cape of Good Hope. No

longer, it seemed, would Venice represent the principal European terminal for the silk and spice routes to the East. No longer would oriental merchants have to put their trust in slow, plodding camel caravans; in future they would take ship at Lisbon and disembark only at their final destination.

Overnight, Venice had become a backwater - or so at least it was thought at the time. Fortunately the Cape route was found to have problems of its own, and the berths along the Riva were to remain full for another century and more; but Venice's self-confidence had been dangerously shaken.

It is a commonplace of history that nations attain their cultural peak only after their political one is past. We may find it hard to believe that this stunning exhibition portrays a civilization in decline, but the truth is that, of its golden century, the Republic spent the first three decades fighting for its life against most - and occasionally all - of the princes of Europe, and the last seven helplessly watching the remorseless Turkish expansion, during which the ephemeral victory of Lepanto in 1571 was as nothing

compared with the permanent loss of Cyprus the previous year.

By 1600 there can have been no doubt in anyone's mind that the great days were over; and although the *Serenissima* was to endure for another two centuries - experiencing, during the first, a brief revival of military glory in the Peloponnesus and, during the second, one last flaring of her artistic genius with the great *vedutisti* and the Tiepolos, father and son - those days were never to return. Only the beauty remained.

Lord Norwich is author of *A History of Venice* (Penguin).

## Enchantment with every step

What is a museum city? The word museum still conjures up, alas, the picture of what most of them were like 50 years ago, but very few - at least in the western world - are like today: vast, echoing spaces, grey and lifeless, filled with carved stones, stiff animals and dusty glasscases. In this sense, surely, no city is less of a museum than Venice. Melancholy she may be, particularly on those misty autumnal afternoons when the lagoon is as smooth as oil, the colours fade from the stone and the marble, and the all-pervading

damp chills you to the marrow; but gloomy, never.

If, on the other hand, we are talking about a city in which almost every important building is a work of art, in which it is impossible to walk a hundred yards without some new enchantment to the eye, then Venice is the museum city par excellence - with the additional advantage, shared by none of her rivals, that there are no roads to be crossed, no cars or lorries to be avoided, no traffic signs to disfigure or obscure the view.

Venice qualifies for the title,

moreover, in one other unique respect. Thanks entirely to those two and a half miles of shallow water which separate her from the mainland - and shallows, be it remembered, provide far better protection than deeps for any would-be invader - Venice has survived through the centuries as the only Italian city never once to have suffered pillage or destruction at the hands of her enemies.

Even when the army of Napoleon finally sailed, unopposed, across the lagoon and brought the 1,000-year-old

Republic ineluctably to its end, shipping off to Paris countless pictures, sculptures and works of art, the fabric of the city itself was left essentially untouched.

And because that same stretch of water has similarly delivered Venice from the tyranny of the motor car, untouched it remains. This truth is brought home strikingly enough whenever we look at a Guardi or a Canaletto; but we can go back more than twice as far as that - to the end of the fifteenth century, when Gentile Bellini and Vittore Carpaccio were active. The points of difference today are at nothing to the points of similarity. No other city constitutes so astonishing a historical document in its own right, or presents so unchanged a face to the world.

Venice, however, does not live in her past - a subject in which most modern Venetians appear sublimely uninterested. They are far more preoccupied with her future. Is she to survive, and if so how? Nobody wants to see this magical city, once the mightiest power in the Mediterranean, slowly sink into the mud of the lagoon as the waters rise around it and its inhabitants gradually desert it for the *terraferma*, until at last it is populated only by the tourists and those who cater for them. Venice would then be a museum city indeed, and a waterlogged one at that.

Surely, if she is to continue, it must be as a living, economically viable community, able to hold her own with her mainland neighbours. Inevitably, this entails certain compromises: one cannot, for example, follow the advice of the purists and ban all motorboats from the city; a first-rate public transport system is essential when there is virtually no other kind, nor is it entirely practical to deliver, say, a deep freeze by gondola.

Venice's own system is second unto none, her *vaporetti* punctual to the minute; there are other essentials, however, where her record is less immaculate. Good low-cost housing for the working population is one; no city can maintain its morale indefinitely when a significant proportion of its inhabitants can expect to find their living-rooms knee-deep in water several times a year.

The other, still more important, since on it Venice's existence ultimately depends, is the construction of the long-awaited gates across the three entrances to the lagoon. Once these are in position and the city made finally safe from the ever more frequent *acqua alta*, the most beautiful city in the world will again be able to face the future not just with hope, but with confidence.



## THE GENIUS OF VENICE

1500-1600

at the Royal Academy of Arts, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1  
until 11 March 1984 (closed 24 & 25 December)



The exhibition is sponsored by the Sea Containers Group and Venice Simplon-Orient-Express Ltd

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## Alitalia and Culture

Alitalia's contribution to the success of London's art exhibition on the great Venetian painters of the 16th and 17th centuries is not an isolated episode. In 1960, in fact, among the company's first cultural initiatives was the display of paintings, by the foremost Italian contemporary artists, on board its DC-8 planes, thereby creating full-fledged high altitude art exhibitions.

These art shows at an altitude of 30,000 feet carried the message that Alitalia continues to develop to this day in the areas of culture: that technology and art are not antithetical terms, but rather expressions of that same complex reality which constitutes man as a whole. These exhibits were followed by similar initiatives in Italy and abroad, attracting visitors from every part of the world, and offering them a fuller understanding of our country's civilization and history.

Particularly worth mentioning among these were the Spoleto "Festival of Two Worlds", the Medici Exhibitions in Florence (illustrating the great influence of the Italian Renaissance on the arts and ideas of the rest of 16th century Europe), Milan's Leonardo da Vinci year, and the Venice Film Festival.

In cinema, Alitalia has long been an active presence, and perhaps not entirely by chance. The film and civil aviation industries are in fact linked by a subtle yet strong bond, to the same core of scientific and technological knowledge.

When, on January 1, 1914, a Benoist seaplane inaugurated the first regular passenger plane service in the U.S.A., the Saint Petersburg-Tampa-Florida line, one could still breathe that atmosphere of exaltation of man's heroic intelligence which had permeated the efforts of the first European and American aviation pioneers. Some even managed to foresee the practical contributions which the new means of transport would have brought to the industrial era.

The cinema as well, from the filming of the workers exiting the Lumière factory—"Sortie d'Usine", 1895, proposed itself as an instrument capable of interpreting the rhythms of the new industrial society.

In an age of profound social change, both the film and the civil aviation industries have been able to adapt technological advance to the needs of their respective strategies, thus enhancing the complexity and importance of their roles in modern society.

This "consonant" relationship doubtless helped Alitalia arrive at the intuition that the cinema, with its immense potential for cultural diffusion, would become the ideal means to arouse public interest in and a favourable attitude toward air transport.

Alitalia's first colour documentary dates back to 1953, only seven years after the founding of the company. The film told the story of a boy that in order to be with his father, was travelling to Brazil, on a Alitalia DC-6B flying the Lisbon/Salt Island route. It was in that same year, 1953, that the first Convair 340's and DC-6B's came to be part of the company's fleet.

From that year onward, Alitalia's Film Section has been active in the development of a long series of documentaries and advertising films geared either to the promotion of the more significant aspects of the company's activities, of Italian or foreign tourist sites or to events of particular historical relevance related to the company's name.

Some of these productions have also received international prizes and awards from various festivals and industrial film reviews.

An important application of the company's technology was the endoscopic filming of the bronze equestrian statue of the Emperor Marcus Aurelius, the celebrated ancient Roman monument which is the centre piece of the square conceived by Michelangelo on the Capitoline Hill.

This examination by film technique enabled the experts of the National Institute for Restoration to locate the damages which the metal had suffered, to permit repairs invisible to the naked eye, and to get an image of the interior of the horse and bust for inspection of the weldings.

It will be seen that Alitalia's cultural initiatives are not limited to occasional spectacular events, but represent a broad policy aimed at achieving results concerning the company's image as well as its commercial activity.

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## The Genius of Venice Exhibition

**ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS**  
25 November 1983 - 11 March 1984

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Lido di Jesolo, on the sunny Adriatic, needs no introduction. Every year, thousands of holidaymakers come to the sandy beaches of this modern, well-equipped resort. But let's take another look at Lido di Jesolo, as a starting point for a voyage of discovery into history, in the wake of the "Genius of Venice", to the places that contribute to its grandeur.

### VENICE: MORE THAN ITS TRADITIONAL IMAGE

There's something about Venice that simply can't be put into words. And that's a quality that reaches beyond Venice and its lagoon to the provinces of the mainland (the Veneto). The Palladian Villas, the rivers, the characteristic villages, the panoramic routes through the vineyards are all too often left off the hasty tourist circuit. You can discover them all from Lido di Jesolo.

### LIDO DI JESOLO: GATEWAY TO THE VENETO

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### LIDO DI JESOLO AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY

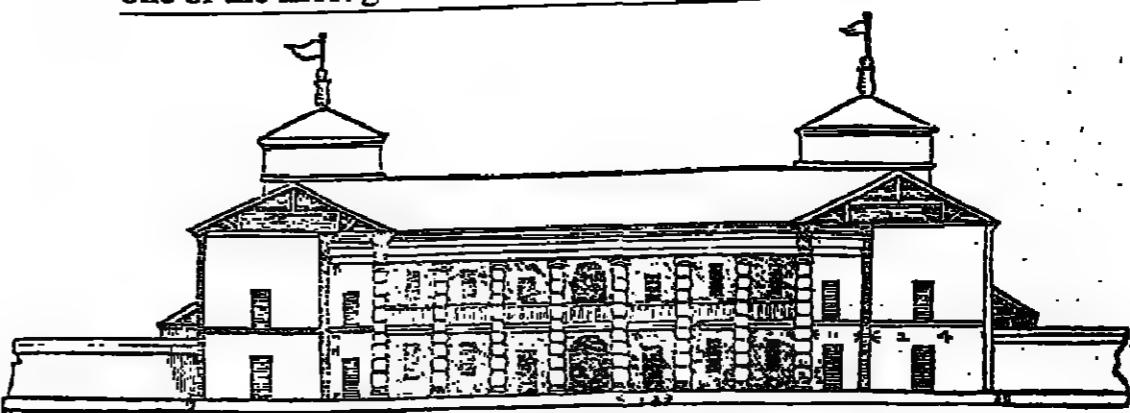
Lido di Jesolo, too, will be present at the Royal Academy, with its own photographic exhibition. Come along and take a look. You could win a free summer holiday!



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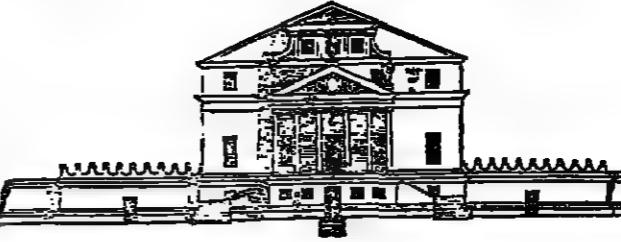
## VENETO

As the Venetian Republic expanded westwards, its noblemen invested in the *terrasferma* and became involved in agriculture. They and the land-owning gentry of the Veneto towns were to provide patrons for one of the most gifted and influential architects of all time



Villa Sarego: woodcut from Palladio's *I Quattro Libri dell'Architettura*, Venice, 1570

## Palladio: a heritage of style



Villa Foscari, called "La Malcontenta", from *I Quattro Libri*

Born in Padua in 1508, Andrea Palladio was lucky to be young enough to be unaffected by the warfare which struck the Veneto in the early years of the *cinquecento*. In 1509, when he was six months old, the combined forces of the League of Cambrai defeated the Venetians at the Battle of Agnadele and overran most of the Veneto. Only a series of courageous military efforts enabled the Republic to regain its political viability.

Palladio's first works date from the 1530s, when the stability had been restored on the Venetian mainland. By the time of his death in 1580, he had designed two dozen villas. Most of these were catalogued in the second book of his famous treatise, the *Quattro Libri dell'Architettura*, published in Venice in 1570. Not all were built, and several remained unfinished; but the surviving villas stand as impressive monuments to his own genius and to his illustrious patrons.

Palladio was certainly an innovator. However, his designs were also firmly rooted in local architectural traditions. Fifteenth-century villas in the Veneto had ordinarily been fortified, symbolically at least, by towers and roof-top crenellations. In more rural sites, the whole villa, together with its gardens and outbuildings, were protected by a fortified enclosure. The principal legacy of villas such as these to Palladio was the characteristically Venetian convention of the symmetrical three-part facade.

After the Cambrai Wars, three of Palladio's immediate predecessors began to show how classical architectural language could be more systematically and correctly applied to traditional villa types. The designs of Falzonetto's Villa La Vespa, Sansovino's Villa Garzoni, and Sanmicheli's Villa La Saranza, reveal the impact of these three architects' intensive studies in the ruins of ancient Rome.

### Civilisation had to be defended

The adoption of Roman forms in the Veneto was not only a question of architectural fashion; it also served to remind Venetians of their legendary ancestry as refugees from barbarian invasions at the fall of the Roman Empire. The fact that modern Rome had been horrifically sacked by imperial troops in 1527 pointed to an ever-present "barbarian" threat. Civilization had to be defended at all cost, and the revival of classical architecture became one of the most effective vehicles for its expression.

Like the three forerunners just mentioned, Palladio studied assiduously in the ruins of ancient Rome. Indeed, he made no fewer than five visits between 1541 and 1554. However, before the excavations of Pompeii and Herculaneum, few remains of classical domestic buildings were known. Literary sources such as Vitruvius and Pliny provided the only detailed evidence for the villas of the ancients. Palladio's great feat of imagination was to combine his knowledge of the ruins of ancient temples and civic buildings with written information relating to antique villas, and to adapt this synthesis to the practical needs of the Veneto landowner.

In the pages of the *Quattro Libri* Palladio displayed his villas as an impressively unified corpus of works, a series of ingenious variations upon a single theme. Each plan is symmetrically arranged, both inside and out, with a loggia and central hall flanked by large, medium-sized and small rooms on each side. Villas with two main living storeys, generally those sited in or near villages or towns, have gracious staircases, one on each side, in prominent positions. In single-storey villas the stairs are tucked away in inconspicuous corners, since they give access only to the grain-lofts above and to the kitchens and cellars below.

Most of the villas were intended as working farms, with long wings on each side of the owner's residence, containing stables, wine-cellars, shelters for carts and ploughs, and accommodation for the farm manager. Dovecotes often marked the ends of the side wings, as in the Villa Emo and the Villa Barbaro, to add interest to the long, low profile, as well as to supply birds for the owner's table.

pediment above, is once again quite individual.

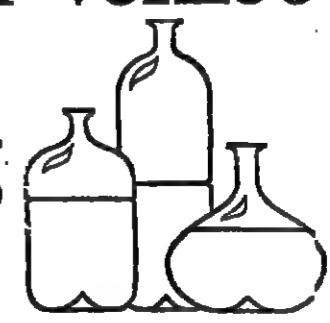
Towards the end of his career, Palladio became increasingly involved with theories of harmonic proportion. In a series of late works he managed to invent designs in which almost every dimension could be incorporated into a series of musical ratios. One example is the design for the Villa Sarego at Santa Sofia, for a Veronese family active in *avant-garde* musical circles.

**Deborah Heward**

Dr Howard lectures in architectural history in the Department of Architecture at Edinburgh University and is the author of two books on Venetian architecture.

# VENINI

## The Genius of Venice in the art of Glass making



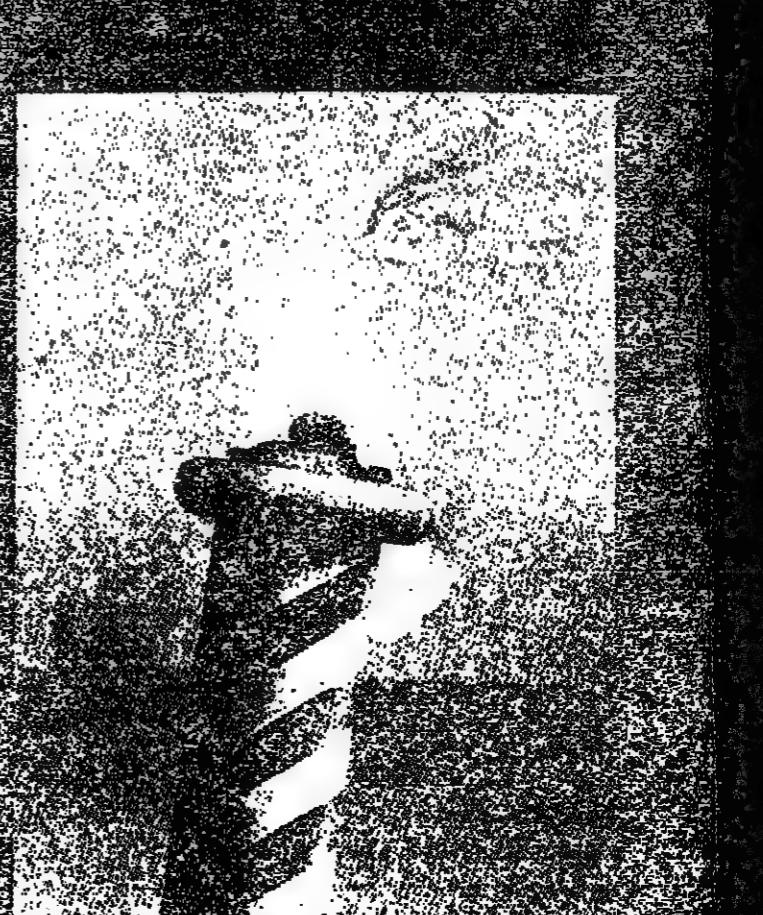
Venini, since its foundation in 1921, is the recognised world master for its unique range of 'objets d'art', acclaimed by experts and collectors. A range of selected pieces have been produced to be on sale at the Royal Academy of Arts during the exhibition of The Genius of Venice.

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Detail from *Nymphs Bathing* by Palma il Vecchio (d.1528), one of the paintings in the Royal Academy exhibition. Palma spent most of his short career in Venice.

## Sinking under tourists

More is sinking into the lagoon than just the buildings of Venice. It seems that the entire 1,000-year-old art tradition of that fabled city is slowly being submerged under the weight of package tourism and a dwindling local population that can no longer sustain the great artistic production that once made it both the envy and joy of the western world.

Successive years have left it with a residue of bad contemporary architecture, albeit relegated to back canals, a degenerating international Biennale that either becomes a stage for political manifestations or increasingly poor displays of art, and a programme of local exhibitions that cannot be labelled as anything but provincial.

Even its great traditions in the decorative arts such as stained glass, blown glass and lace-making, have dwindled, with a few notable exceptions, to the level of airport art addressing itself to the purses of the undiscriminating tourists who swamp Murano and Burano and the area around the Piazza San Marco.

Some people believe Venetian art died the day Napoleon sailed up the Grand Canal and announced the end of the once proud Republic. Others think it was the forced infusion of the Venice Biennale in 1895, which flooded the city with increasingly meretricious avant-gardism that Venetian artists aped in their desperate attempt to keep afloat.

Whatever the reason, the city that once gave birth to some of the greatest glories of western art, and which considered the arts among its most important exports, now houses but five serious commercial galleries (only one of which has any international importance) and only one serious museum of contemporary art – even that the gift of an American, Peggy Guggenheim.

An insignificant handful of local artists tend to congregate quietly along the Dorsso Duro. Older figures who once had some importance, such as

Arturo Martini, a proto-surrealist who created a series of semi-abstract brush, Dorino Caffi, who has decorated buildings from Mestre to Rome and Naples with ceramic bas-reliefs, reveals himself as an accomplished, if pedantically avant-garde, sculptor.

There is Armando Pizzinato, born in 1910, a seminal abstractionist who is revered now only by Venetians. The most important internationally is Emilio Vedova (born 1919), whose bold, non-figurative expressionist canvases are still much sought after in the capitals of art, but he is an exception.

Are there others? One sits poring over *Bolaffi* (the official catalogue of Italian art) looking for the forgotten: Tancredi, who made a sensation in the 1950s and died in 1964; Music, still very much alive but not quite as much in demand as he once was; Santomaso, born in 1907, still working in Venice; and Alberto Biasi, who rose like a comet in the 1960s with his Op Art works. There is also Mario de Luigi, who lives in Dorsoduro creating works in a style called *grattage* which he invented 20 years ago.

**Young artists drifting off to Milan**

Of the younger artists there are remarkably few left who have not sensibly drifted off to Milan or Rome, where brisk business in international art trading offers a better chance of discovery by a more receptive buying public and the Murano glass works took a new lease on life.

During the past few years, Paolo Martinuzzi and Luciano Vistosi have created striking sculptural shapes in glass that exist independent of any arbitrary division between fine and applied arts. But it is Livio Seguso, "sculpting" in blown glass, who perhaps single-handedly is upholding his city's dying reputation. His magical shapes, unfolding transparently in lyrical configurations, indicate a truly new art forged out of an ancient tradition. Perhaps that is where the future of Venetian art lies, if it has any at all.

Mario Amaya

Reproduced by kind permission of the British Museum.

## Italian Genius

Maybe it was in Roman times that Venetian glassmaking started. Or maybe new techniques and direction were learned from the Saracen Workshops, around the 12th century. Unfortunately the history is unclear. But there remains no uncertainty about the genius of the Italians who create it, even to this day.

This genius has been flourishing from generation to generation for hundreds of years. From the earliest 15th century examples surviving to today's products, the craftsmen have used time only to perfect their art.

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## Shakespeare country at your feet

Though Venice is probably the most beautiful city in the world, its immediate surroundings are certainly the most hideous. The dusty road from Marco Polo airport is lined with supermarket, petrol stations and advertisement hoardings and, as one approaches Mussolini's Ponte della Libertà, the horrendous spectacle of Mestre and Marghera assaults not only the eyes, but the nose as well. All attempts at controlling the poisonous exhalations from the petro-chemical installations there have been cynically sabotaged. If one decides to make the journey in reverse, in order to regain the *terraferma*, part of this satanic wasteland must of course be run again.

An excellent justification for doing so is a visit to three conveniently near but stimulatingly contrasted places, Padua, Vicenza and Verona. They all inevitably exhibit evidence of strong Venetian influence, having been absorbed into the Republic at the very beginning of the fifteenth century, but they still retain their individuality.

Padua is basically a university town, famous for its faculty of law, in *The Merchant of Venice*. Portia claims to represent "the learned doctor Bellario" of Padua. The university is the second oldest in Italy, having been founded in 1222 by a group of teachers and students from Bologna and University.

In desperation, we turn to the great tradition of glass-making, for which Venice alone has been famous from the tenth century on and which still draws nearly half a million tourists a year. Leaving aside the highly enteraining daily circus displays at Murano where, before one's eyes, fire and molten sand are transformed into prancing ponies, griffins and unicorns, there are "serious" attempts at art glass which mercifully continue.

From the twentieth-century tradition of Salviati's late Art nouveau masterpieces through the virtuous Venetian Art Deco glass, particularly by the Compagnia di Venezia e Murano-Pauli & Co, which fetch astronomical prices wherever they appear on the market, to the products of Venini, this native art form seems to have kept its integrity.

In the 1960s Peggy Guggenheim took a particular interest in reviving the artistic tradition of Murano glass as a pure art form, and commissioned Miro, Picasso, Alexander Calder and others to do special works in this medium. Some of the experiments were ludicrous, but most were enchanting and the Murano glass works took a new lease on life.

During the past few years, Paolo Martinuzzi and Luciano Vistosi have created striking sculptural shapes in glass that exist independent of any arbitrary division between fine and applied arts. But it is Livio Seguso, "sculpting" in blown glass, who perhaps single-handedly is upholding his city's dying reputation. His magical shapes, unfolding transparently in lyrical configurations, indicate a truly new art forged out of an ancient tradition. Perhaps that is where the future of Venetian art lies, if it has any at all.

Mario Amaya

Cavour, is one of the most attractive neoclassical buildings in Italy, the Caffè Pedrocchi, designed by Giuseppe Jacelli and built in 1831 in a bold Greek-Doric style and still retaining some of its original interior decoration and furniture.

There are several important churches to be visited, notably the Basilica di San Antonio, dedicated to St Anthony and known locally as the *Santo*, on the square in front of which stands Donatello's powerful equestrian statue of the Condottiere Gattamelata (1453).

Padua's other basilica, dedicated to Santa Giustina, overlooks the Praetoriale della Valle, originally the centre of the Roman city and later used for markets and fairs. Its informality, familiar from its sketching by Canaletto, was offensive to the neoclassical ethos and from 1775 it was "improved" and embellished with statues of local worthies.

Any visit, however brief, must include the Cappella degli Scrovegni, built in the ruins of the Roman arena in 1305 and completely frescoed by Giotto. One of the undisputed masterpieces of western art, it signalled its direction for more than 600 years, as revolutionary in its way as Picasso's *Les Demoiselles d'Avignon* of 1907.

Padua is a young, bustling democratic place, whereas Vicenza, some 20 miles to the east and slightly north, is, in spite of its small size, essentially aristocratic. Its fabric is grand, even forbidding, and much of it is the work of one man, the Vicenzine architect Andrea Palladio (1508-80).

Walking around Vicenza is rather like being on a stage set and so one is hardly surprised to find the Teatro Olimpico, with its illusionistic proscenium based on ancient Roman models. Across Piazza Matteotti,

the Palazzo Chiericati, which houses the Museo Civico, looks strangely familiar: the south facade of the Queen's House, Greenwich, is built to the same design, but with the balance between solid and void reversed.

The heart of the city is the Piazza dei Signori, dominated by the huge Basilica, which Palladio clothed in a magnificent two-storey arcade whose basic unit is equally familiar as the "Venetian window", so popular with English architects during the Georgian period.

If Padua is democratic and Vicenza aristocratic, Verona is positively imperial, with its vast Roman arena, its array of

forked Ghibelline battlements and, above all, its commanding situation on the river Adige – Ruskin said that it was "more nobly placed than Edinburgh".

The social spine of the city is the pedestrianized Via Mazzini, which links Piazza Erbe, the Old Roman Forum and now a market place packed with umbrella-shaded stalls, with Piazza Bra, lined with elegant cafés and restaurants and containing the majestic Arena.

Verona is enormously rich in works of art, an important collection of which is housed in the Museo del Castelvecchio, which was completely redesigned in the early 1960s by Carlo Scarpa in a bare but dramatic style that has happily not dated.

Paolo Caliari, usually called Veronese from his birthplace, is the city's most famous painter and although he spent most of his life in Venice, he did occasionally return to Verona, where he painted at least two major altarpieces, still *in situ*.

That in the Church of San Giorgio in Braida (1556), depicting the *Martyrdom of St George*, is appropriately enough one of his grandest as well as his most dramatic works.

**Jeffrey Daniels**  
Director, Jeffrye Museum,  
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THE TIMES

**FINANCE AND INDUSTRY**  
 Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

## Tebbit takes competitive view of Telecom

Mr Norman Tebbit was in characteristically trenchant mood yesterday, unleashing his celebrated acerbic tongue on the Post Office engineers for the short-sightedness of their campaign against the privatization of British Telecom.

Although in many observer's eyes the union campaign is now beginning to run out of both steam and money, it has undoubtedly had some success in turning public opinion against privatization.

Mr Tebbit was clearly primarily concerned to redress some of the balance in the propaganda battle, and doubtless many of his barbs will have their effect.

More interesting from the City and industry's point of view, were his more general, philosophical thoughts on privatization. With the Treasury and the big spending departments now engaged on drawing up their privatization programme for the next five years - a programme that could raise £10,000m - will be a key figure in determining not only what goes into the private sector, but the equally important question of how this should be done.

The Trade and Industry Secretary enunciated two principles: first, that competition should be encouraged whenever possible (a principle "so self-evident that I am tempted to claim that it is universally accepted"), and the second that "businesses do best when they are in the private sector". (a view which Mr Tebbit is astonished is not universally accepted).

No profundities there - but the priority between the advancement of competition and the transfer of ownership from public to private sector is precisely what the present internal Government debate over privatization is all about (witness the British Airways/British Caledonian conundrum).

Mr Tebbit hinted strongly that he is lining up behind the view that promoting competition must be the Government's paramount concern.

British Telecom, he declared, is "no shrinking violet that has to be protected from competition". Indeed it is not: it is however the apparent lack of genuine

competition in the Government's plans for the telecommunications industry that has caused so many of its natural supporters to express their misgivings about the British Telecom flotation.

Mr Tebbit must be aware of this, although he claimed yesterday that BT's real competition is with IBM and ITT in the expanding international market. It will be interesting to see if his speech is followed up by a further tightening of the competitive and regulatory framework facing BT after privatization.

### Mr Longcroft back in business

On the face of it, Mr James Longcroft's Tricentrol group is marking time with 9 month net profits virtually unchanged at £16.1m pointing to a full year profits of £20m plus. But behind that lies a big cut in the tax bill on Tricentrol's British oil interests - mainly the depleting Thistle field plus a new field in Surrey.

This state of affairs is mainly a result of tax concessions made in the last budget which now make North Sea exploration and companies with tax to offset against it more attractive.

Tricentrol is already involved in exploration in New Zealand (where it is taking a cautious line on drilling results that sent local shares in the Moki offshore field soaring).

Exploration in China is due to start, acreage has been built up in the Gulf of Mexico, the old Canadian interests are still delivering. But the vital eighth round North Sea Licences have still to be appraised.

The company used not to be too clever about protecting its tax position. Mr Longcroft, after being criticized for worrying more about his own tax as an exile, is now back in charge and relying more on the team that he originally built up. If he does not exploit Tricentrol's post-budget possibilities fully, others would no doubt be happy to take over and do it for him.

## Trade figures fire a warning shot

The October trade figures are hardly a cause for panic, but certainly provide more ammunition for those who feel it is time to reappraise the state of the economic cycle in Britain. The reversal to a monthly current deficit of £269m, the worst since May, was caused by a blip of imports right across the range of commodities.

A year ago monthly imports and exports of goods other than oil were balanced at £3.9 billion apiece. By last month imports had climbed to £5 billion while exports were stuck at a little above £4 billion. Some divergence was to be expected, because Britain's recovery started before those in Europe, North America and elsewhere. But that story is beginning to wear a little thin.

The export boom to the United States is starting to tail off and the EEC balance is not going well.

This all adds to the argument that the consumer boom, even if it does continue, will prove unhealthy because it will lead to overheating of crucial sectors of the economy.

If the Chancellor is to achieve his forecast 3 per cent growth rate next year, he must rely heavily on a switch to investment and/or a crucial contribution from recovering overseas demand for

British exports. And any old exports will not do.

In many industries the excess capacity, the drive to push for chancy export markets, simply is not there.

Otherwise, there are bound to be inflationary pressures, whether exerted through trade and the exchange rate or elsewhere. This message had not yet percolated through to policymakers.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

## Big fall in orders for engineers

Britain's engineering companies had one of their worst months for new orders from abroad in August, the Department of Trade and Industry reported yesterday. But the feeling within the industry is that August was an aberration.

New orders from overseas, on an index set against the monthly average for 1980, slumped to 69. Mechanical engineering suffered most of all, falling to 61, while instrument and electrical engineering was down to 80.

The quarterly trend - comparing the three months ending in August with the previous three - shows an overall drop in foreign orders of 21.5 per cent. That, however, was distorted by an exceptionally good April, when Northern Engineering Industries is believed to have received substantial contracts for Indian power station equipment. Home orders during the same period showed an overall 9 per cent rise.

Mr Eric Parker, managing director of Trafalgar House, has taken over the mantel vacated by Lord Matthews when Fleet Holdings was hived off, and assumed the role of chief executive under the chairmanship of Mr Nigel Brookes.

Group attributable profits at Anglo American, the South African mining and industrial finance company, rose by 12.6 per cent to R241m (£136m) in the six months to the end of September. The dividend was maintained at 35 cents and earnings per share, including those from associates, were 145.5 cents against 136.3 cents. But the shares were unchanged in London at £10.15.

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## Extel interim profits jump to more than £5m

By Our Financial Staff

Greater activity in its financial and commercial printing markets helped the Extel group to more than treble its interim pretax profits. They reached £5.15m in the half-year to the end of last September - against £1.5m in the similar half in 1982. This latest figure is almost as much as Extel made in the whole of 1982-83. Extel's shares jumped 46p to 416p yesterday.

The profits were achieved on a turnover up 20 per cent to £69.6m. The interim dividend is raised from 2.5p to 3p. During the first half, Extel

won control of Benn Brothers, the publishers, in a £16m takeover battle with United Newspapers.

Mr Alan Brooker, chairman and chief executive, said: "The dramatic improvement in our profits compared with last year is mainly due half-year of high activity in the financial and commercial printing markets."

Last month, Extel acquired a 75 per cent stake in MGE, a company supplying software packages and computer systems.

Mr Brooker added: "At the end of the year we expect to be able to report continued progress throughout the group."

### Airline takes on the charter operators

## BA in Atlantic fightback

By Derek Harris  
Commercial Editor

British Airways is launching a new subsidiary, Poundsstretch, as a direct competitor to the low-price transatlantic holidays and airseats operation of Jetset, recently bought by the rival British Caledonian.

At the same time, British Airways announced that the founder of Jetset, Mr Reg Pycroft, would be joining it. Mr Pycroft left Jetset, which pioneered cheap transatlantic flights, while it was still part of Associated Communications Corporation.

But British Airways says he will have no connection with the new Poundsstretch operation because of an agreement when he left Jetset that precludes him from working on a comparable operation until March 1985.

Mr Pycroft has been taken on as a consultant, and has a priority job of finding ways to switch cheap remaindered British Airways tickets out of



Reg Pycroft joining British Airways

"bucket shops" and into high street travel agents.

The aim is to put discounted tickets to European destinations into the travel agents. At present, between 2 million and 3 million such seats are not being filled.

The Poundsstretch, which takes up a name used by British Airways in earlier advertising campaigns, will be offering 100,000 seats annually from April on scheduled and charter flights out of Heathrow, Gatwick and Manchester. The seats will at first be mainly on flights to North America.

Poundsstretch prices will be "keenly competitive but not necessarily rock bottom," according to Mr Harris. Where scheduled services are used, prices will not be below normal schedule fares on offer but various extras, yet to be decided, will be added.

Both holiday packages and seats-only deals will be on offer. It is common with this style of marketing to offer low price hotel deals, cheaper car hire and free drinks and complementary flight bags on flights.

Jetset has been a big user of British Airways charter and scheduled services. The contract runs to the end of next summer.

## Rethink at Burnett after profits halved to £4.9m

By Andrew Cornelius

Burnett & Hallamshire Holdings, the mining and property group which promised further substantial growth in profits this year, yesterday announced halved interim pretax profits of £4.9m.

The slump in profits was below the worst City expectations after a series of meetings between City analysts and Eric Grayson, who succeeded Mr George Helsby as chairman of the group in October. The shares fell by 5p to 168p. At their peak earlier this year when Mr Helsby predicted strong growth, Burnett shares were trading at £8.50 each.

Mr Grayson said the results are naturally a disappointment but the group was in a financially strong position and well able to develop and grow from a sound base. Against this background he said the board had decided to declare an unchanged interim dividend of 4p per share.

Mr Grayson said he was conducting a review of the group's operations and at least two new non-executive directors would be appointed to strengthen the board.

He said that, after a period when the company had expanded dramatically - principally by acquisition - it was now the right time to examine the future corporate strategy in order to maximize profits from existing resources.

Kleinwort Benson, recently appointed as financial advisers to the group, and James Capel & Co, appointed as brokers, were helping with this review.

The biggest shortfall in

profits in the six months to September 30 came from the property division where pretax profits fell from £4.5m to £1.2m.

Mr Grayson said that earlier this year the company expected to be able to announce further contribution to growth from the property division.

Instead there was a nil contribution from the property development activities in California, which last year produced a pretax profit of £2.4m, after the sale of the group's interest in the Dart Square development. He said the phasing of the current development

profits from £208,000 to £231,000.

Group turnover during the six months fell from £107m to £100m.

The dramatic slide in the Burnett share price began after Mr Grayson briefed City stockbroking firms shortly after his appointment as chairman, following the surprise resignation through ill health of Mr George Helsby, his predecessor.

Before the meetings, analysts were expecting another record year of profits from Burnett to follow the previous 15 successive years of increased profits.

Profits forecasts for the year were downgraded from £38m to between £15m and £18m.

Subsequently the company's bankers and brokers were

burnt by problems at Rand Corporation in South Africa, which contributed to associate company losses of £1.5m at the interim stage, against losses of £418,000 last year. Rand has been hit by falling demand for its coal products and Burnett is waiting to complete a restructuring of the Rand operations

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## Norton Opax on course

By Jeremy Warner

**Norton Opax**  
Half-year to 30.9.83  
Pretax profit £388,000 (£277,000)  
Stated earnings 2.59p (1.74p)  
Turnover £4.5m (£3.7m)  
Net interim dividend 1p (0.67p)

Norton Opax, the Leeds security printer, is on course for achieving its forecast of full-year trading profits of £1.25m made at the time of its unsuccessful bid for John Waddington in July.

At the half-way stage, pretax profits jumped from £277,000 to £388,000 and the interim dividend is being raised from 6.67p to 1p.

The £4.7m acquisition of Broadprint Group is not expected to be completed until December 8 and so will only make a small contribution to full-year results.

Orders to supply six additional national lotteries, bringing the total number of countries supplied to 29, have recently been won. The initial value of the new work is over £1m and this will make a contribution to results in 1984.

### COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

**Retroprint**  
Half-year to 1.10.83  
Pretax loss £165,000 (£35,000)  
Turnover £7.4m (£6.5m)

**James Burrough**  
Half-year to 31.8.83  
Pretax profit 2.4m (£2.5m)  
Stated earnings 13.7p (8.7p)  
Turnover £24.1m (£21.5m)  
Net interim dividend 3p (2.2p)

**Hanover Investment (Holdings)**  
Half-year to 31.8.83  
Pretax profit £208,000 (£101,000)  
Stated earnings 3.02p (1.67p)  
Turnover £2.2m (£2.0m)  
Net interim dividend 0.77p (0.7p)

**Thomas Locker (Holdings)**  
Half-year to 30.9.83  
Pretax profit £940,000 (£1.2m)  
Stated earnings 1.05p (1.28p)  
Turnover £12.5m (£14m)  
Net interim dividend 0.375p (same)

**French Kier Holdings**  
Half-year to 30.6.83  
Pretax profit £5.7m (£4.9m)  
Stated earnings 6.4p (5.5p)  
Turnover £118m (£107m)  
Net interim dividend 1.45p (1.25p)

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK • edited by Michael Prest

## Weak rand boosts Anglo American

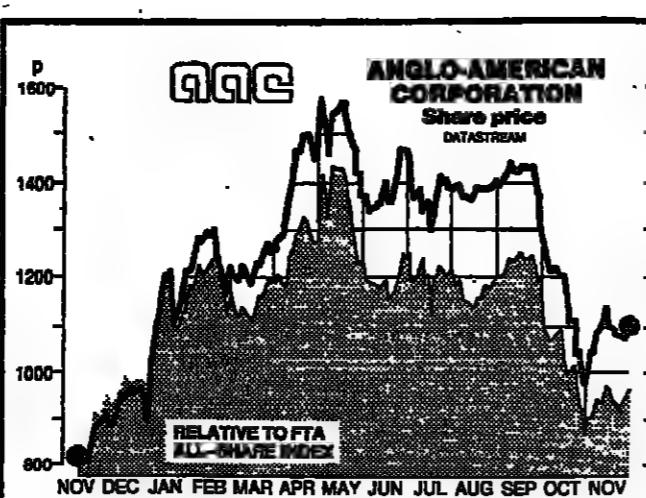
It seems churlish to cavil at a 12.6 per cent increase in group attributable profits, but Anglo American Corporation's performance owed more to the weakness of the rand rather than to spectacular success in selling its services and products.

This year's interim figures shadow those of 1982 pretty closely, with the crucial exception of the two lines - "dividends from associated companies" and "dividends from general investments". In the first case, earnings rose from R132m (£77m) to R156m, and in the second from R47.7m to R69.7m.

In the accountancy jargon, these lines are effectively the earnings from gold. It is worth remembering, to put the bare figures in perspective, that Anglo's group interests produce about a quarter of the gold in the West. But gold prices have not been higher this year than last.

So the answer is the rand. Fortunately for the South African mines the weakness of the gold price and the internal problems of the Republic's economy have combined with the strength of the dollar, in which of course gold is denominated, to keep profits up. Anglo was also fortunate in receiving two dividends from Rustenburg Platinum.

But even the rand effect has not been enough to offset the collapse in world coal prices. Amcoal its coal subsidiary has been struggling for a while and without the surge in South African property prices which improved the ratios at Am-



### Boots

The Boots Company looks set for a long period of sustained profits growth. Yesterday's half-year statement indicates excellent prospects for the pharmaceuticals division while the group appears to be getting to grips with the long-term problems posed by the retailing side of the business.

In the six months to the end of September pretax profits rose by 24.5 per cent from £52.3m to £65.1m. They would have been a lot better but for a £6m provision in retailing against the clawback of chemists' remuneration by the Department of Health and Social Security.

Even so, retailing profits made a gain against the poor results of the corresponding period and after adding back in

the provision, profit margins in the chemists have shown a marked improvement, rising from 2.87 per cent last time to 4 per cent.

Though the retailing side had a good second half last year, the current Christmas season is off to a buoyant start and there is evidence that the shop-within-shop concept being experimented at three branches is beginning to do the trick of improving the traditionally low level of average spending by Boots customers.

But it is in the United States that the real excitement for Boots lies. In the first half sales of the US subsidiary rose 70 per cent to £19.3m while profits rose several times over on the back of Rufen which has improved its share of Upjohn's Morris market from 5.5 per cent a year ago to 11 per cent.

In Britain Nurofen, a new pain killing drug, has already achieved its sales targets in the over-the-counter market for the whole of this year, which augurs well for its success in the US. The US Food and Drugs Administration approval for it is expected soon.

On a group turnover from £493.1m to £526.1m, Redland pushed pretax profits from £29.1m to £40.5m. The figure was 60% above the market's best expectation.

Although good figures had already been anticipated, the share rose 5p to 268p. Redland does not share the gloomy views beginning to come from the construction industry.

Trading in the second half is continuing at buoyant levels.

### Redland

Everything in Redland's brick and concrete garden is looking rosy. Half time profits to the end of September were up 40 per cent and shareholders get a 13 per cent lift in the interim dividend.

Trading in the second half is continuing at buoyant levels.

## Argyll Group profit jumps by £8.1m

By Andrew Cornelius

**Argyll Group**  
Half-year to 30.9.83  
Pretax profit £18.1m (£10m)  
Stated earnings 7.7p (4.6p)  
Turnover £697m (£595m)  
Net interim dividend 1.75p  
Share price 140p (120p)  
Dividend payable 20.1.84

developments which were acquired from Dee Corporation in a £6m deal earlier this month. This will bring the number of Presto stores to 150 and Mr Gulliver is confident that he will achieve the target of opening 20 new stores each year by 1985.

Argyll's other retail businesses, which include the Liptons and Templeton stores, also managed strong volume growth, while Mojo and Snowking, the wholesale distribution businesses maintained their contribution.

Trading profits of the former Argyll Foods group increased from £9.2m to £13.7m.

ADP, the Scotch whisky division, reported increased trading profits of £4.4m against losses of £52,000 last time, helped by a £290,000 contribution from the acquisition of Barton Brands, the US drinks business which have Scottish whisky operation.

Barton made increased operating profits of £4.2m on sales of £61.5m with strong growth in demand for gin, vodka and tequila coming through.

There was also an improved contribution from the Liquor save group of off-licences.

## £27m BSC deal with TI will cut 400 jobs

By Our Financial Staff

TI Group and the British Steel Corporation have agreed a £27m deal to rationalise seamless tube manufacturing interests in Corby and Wednesfield in the West Midlands with the loss of 400 jobs.

The two companies said yesterday that the decision to establish a new company to be called Seamless Tubes could lead to the closure of TI's Pilger Mill in Wednesfield and the hot mill section of BSC's plug mill at Corby.

BSC will take a 74.5 per cent stake in the new company and TI Group a 25.5 per cent stake. The new company will employ 1,200 people and help ensure

### COMMODITIES

#### EUROPEAN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL FUTURES

Source: London International Financial Services Ltd

Period: Month Volume Settlement

GLTB Dec 2609 10909

Mar 2610 10813

June 2611 10731

Sept 2612 10718

Comment: Very Mixed

STAINLESS STEEL AND LIPERFON COMMISSION:

Average faststock prices at representative

warehouses in Europe

LEAD Dec 2620 10600

Mar 2621 10538

June 2622 10470

Sept 2623 10470

Comment: Firm.

STERLING Dec 2624 10460

Mar 2625 10470

June 2626 10470

Sept 2627 10470

Comment: Steady.

TIN Dec 2628 10460

Mar 2629 10460

June 2630 10460

Sept 2631 10460

Comment: Firm.

COFFEE Dec 2632 10460

Mar 2633 10460

June 2634 10460

Sept 2635 10460

Comment: Firm.

COKE Dec 2636 10460

Mar 2637 10460

June 2638 10460

Sept 2639 10460

Comment: Firm.

COAL Dec 2640 10460

Mar 2641 10460

June 2642 10460

Sept 2643 10460

Comment: Firm.

COKE OIL Dec 2644 10460

Mar 2645 10460

June 2646 10460

Sept 2647 10460

Comment: Firm.

COKE LIQUID Dec 2648 10460

Mar 2649 10460

June 2650 10460

Sept 2651 10460

Comment: Firm.

COKE LIQUID

Dec 2652 10460

Mar 2653 10460

June 2654 10460

Sept 2655 10460

Comment: Firm.

COKE LIQUID

Dec 2656 10460

Mar 2657 10460

June 2658 10460

Sept 2659 10460

Comment: Firm.

COKE LIQUID

Dec 2660 10460

Mar 2661 10460

June 2662 10460

Sept 2663 10460

Comment: Firm.

COKE LIQUID

Dec 2664 10460

Mar 2665 10460

June 2666 10460

Sept 2667 10460

Comment: Firm.

COKE LIQUID

Dec 2668 10460

Mar 2669 10460

June 2670 10460

Sept 2671 10460

Japan Two: Graham Searjeant and John Lawless look at the export circus

## Shadow boxing that keeps export drives in low gear

A bizarre event took place in Kensington's Royal Garden Hotel last week. A group of Japanese businessmen and retailers, headed by Mr Yobei Mimura, president of Mitsubishi Corporation, conducted a seminar for British businessmen to help them export to Japan.

That any manufacturing country should actually encourage competitive imports is extraordinary enough despite the £2.5 billion trade gap. The response of the invited British audience, three times larger than expected, was, on the surface, even more amazing.

After the Japanese had spent an hour lecturing their guests on how to tackle the notorious - if not obviously too different - Japanese distribution system, how to get involved in joint ventures and win royalties by licensing technology, the British simply exploded. They had heard it all before, they said. Unless letting off steam is a great boon to international trading relations, the meeting could not be called a success.

The reactions of the nine

task for the sake of machinery exporters.

Since Britain is still running an overall trading surplus, it has no logical trade grievance against Japan. The existence of an imbalance between two individual countries is an irrelevance, an intrinsic element in a multilateral world trade system.

If there is a problem it lies not in imports from Japan so much as the failure of exports to Japan to match the potential of a single market of 115 million people with high discretionary spending power.

Why is this so? For some time, exporters have not been able to complain about Japanese tariffs. Though these are still skewed against certain exportable products, the old protection has long gone. In case for instance, Japan levies no tariff, though we levy more than 10 per cent.

The emphasis then switched to non-tariff barriers. At the seminar, for instance, BL's Mr Ray Horrocks, who sells a negligible 1,200 Jaguars and 400 Minis a year to Japan (about the same as 10 years ago) explained that he had "a superb relationship with Honda. But once you get head-to-head with Japanese administration and bureaucracy, you have enormous problems.

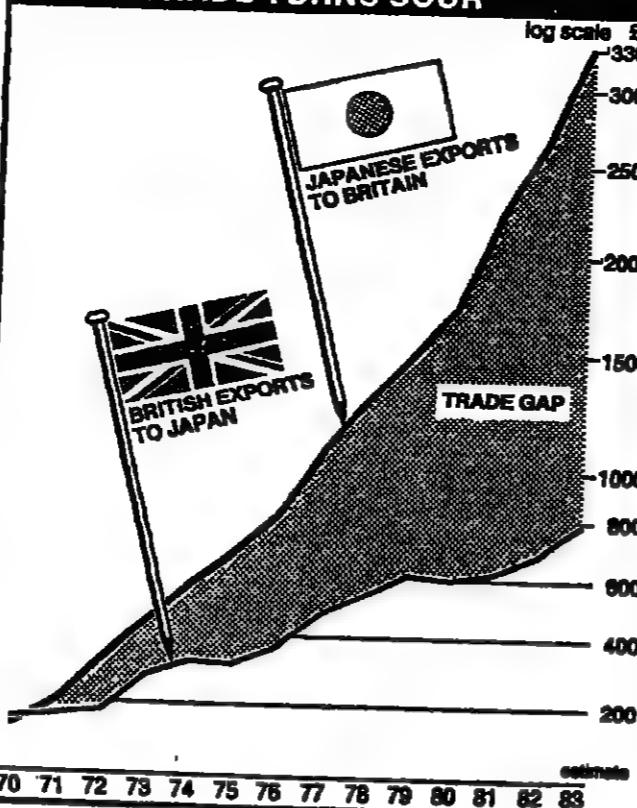
Once when we put an additional serial number on to our engine block, they stopped our car. And when Lucas changed the serial number on one component within a lamp-

**It was Paris the Japanese businessmen were dreading**

assembly we fitted, they did the same thing."

Mr Keinosuke Inazaki of the Japan Automobile Importers Association could plausibly deflate this argument as largely a thing of the past. And Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) can point to its trade ombudsman, charged with investigating com-

### JAPAN TRADE TURNS SOUR



plaints of bureaucratic obstructions, to its current review of standards and testing procedures, or to its 124 business consultants stationed in European cities to aid the distressed would-be importer.

That leaves a general feeling of sheer frustration as European exporters are urged to be patient and try harder. "British companies export something like 30 per cent of our GNP yet we find it extraordinarily difficult to export to Japan", charged the CBI's Mr Ken Edwards. "There must be positive discrimination to encourage imports".

JETRO, the Japan External Trade Organization, which is undergoing a schizophrenic about-face from export to import promotion can even provide answers to that. Japan has recently introduced an interest rate subsidy for importers. The prime minister Mr Nakasone himself earlier this year appealed to incredulous

Japanese people for their "understanding and co-operation in welcoming foreign manufactured goods and investment", not a pica too many democratic politicians would hazard in election year.

Yet the Nomura Research Institute is still forecasting a rise from \$7 billion to \$21 billion in Japan's current account balance of payments this year, with only a marginal fall next year.

Leaving America's self-imposed exchange-rate handicap to one side, is there any reason why Japan, as the champion industrial country, should not run a continuing trade surplus matched by investment abroad, just as Britain did in the old days?

Perhaps the emphasis on exports to Japan should be seen merely as an elaborate form of shadow-boxing, a proxy for the real battle to limit (or safeguard) Japanese exports.

There is little evidence that

Britain and Europe regard Japan as a market consonant in importance with its position as the world's number two economy.

There are, for instance, more than 10 times as many Japanese people working in the European Community countries as European traders in Japan. The British export marketing centre in Tokyo, a branch of the Heath era, has closed, despite Japanese aid in recent years.

It should be said, however, that the trade department's Export to Japan unit is one of its most vigorous and the only one devoted to a single country.

Perhaps the biggest cultural factor behind the trade imbalance is the language barrier. English has been Japan's first foreign language since the war. Yet in Britain, only four British universities have schools of Japanese, some of those aided by Japan. The first sign that we were taking the Japanese market seriously would be a rapid explosion of Japanese teaching in this country.

Britain sells about £800m of industrial and consumer goods annually to Japan, with a highly successful trade in pharmaceuticals and ethnic luxury goods from cashmere to dashboards.

The biggest opportunities in the Japanese market lie in food. Perhaps, despite all the bluster, Britain's exporters are right to give greater priority to Europe, the Middle East and rising Commonwealth markets.

### There must be positive discrimination to help imports

As hard-headed new British Overseas Trade Board study of

opportunities for Anglo-Japanese joint ventures in the transport sector, while pointing to specialized markets for fire-fighting vehicles and the like, warns that "we cannot overstate the problems in the long and difficult task of pursuing these opportunities. Anyone with the

lack of will, finance, and persistence to commit themselves fully would be well advised not to attempt it."

Between the lines, the report implies that the best hope is to form joint ventures to neutralize Japanese encroachment in existing third country markets.

Some of the complaints at last week's seminar point the same way. Japan's motor distributors, it seems, are already tied up with Japanese firms. Middle managers, who often make the real purchasing decisions, need re-education to accept imports.

Yet these are precisely the conditions which prevailed in Britain a generation ago, until industrial decay, bad design and unreliable, strike-hit domestic supplies opened the way for a re-consideration of foreign goods. Given these problems, it is clear that if British industry was to make any concerted assault on the Japanese market, it would have to adopt the tactics employed by Japanese industry.

We would set up substantial presence on the ground in

### English is Japan's first foreign language

Japan. We should exploit our many superb but under-promoted international brand names to sell a wider range of goods.

And we should adopt the rifle-shot approach, targeting certain areas for export pushes by a combination of collaboration.

Ironically, Japan's huge appetite for eating humble pie as a cheap method of appeasing European industry tends to deter any such heroic assault by offering the ever-tantalizing prospect of unofficial protection against Japanese imports on the one hand and red carpet treatment for our goods on the other.

Japan's government and industry is highly cautious. It might be better if they took a more aggressive line, refusing to renew voluntary restraint agreements and challenging Europe to live up to its formal free trade policy.

Only when all hopes of protectionism are gone will European businesses be forced to stop whingeing and take the Japanese market seriously.

### Industrial notebook

## London in late bid to make its mark

EEC patent office went to Munich after another uncoordinated attempt by Britain. Having the patent

office is one advantage that Munich has over London in the present battle. Another is the understanding between the German Chancellor, Herr Kohl, and the Bavarian leader, Herr Strauss - and the understanding between them and the German business community a commitment and an ability to press hard in Brussels for the trade mark office to be sited in Munich.

So tempting is the office that a number of other British cities, among them Birmingham, Manchester and Swansea, put in bids at one time or another. This was embarrassing for the Government since it had already told Brussels that London was its preferred site.

Until the office is set up, manufacturers must register - and protect - their trade mark in each of the 10 EEC countries, each with its own language and procedures. Most applicants to the British office are EEC companies.

In this country, Trade Mark No. 1, registered when the Department of Trade's registry opened in 1876, was the red triangle which adorns the labels of Bass beer. No. 2 was another drinks company, the Monastery of La Grande Chartreuse, followed by the King of Saxony who was determined to protect in Britain the marks used by the Royal Manufactory of Meissen.

The ninth mark, registered eight years ago, was by Pierre Fabre, a French pharmaceuticals company. Mrs Thatcher is having circulated copies of the Greater London Council's pitch for the office. Given that the Government is pledged to abolishing the GLC, the document could become a collector's item.

Yet neither Mrs Thatcher nor Mr Tebbit can argue in Brussels... as the Germans can... that they "cannot" give ground because they are being leaned on by MPs, in turn under pressure from trade mark agents and trade holders.

According to Mr Mills, "the level of House of Commons interest in those days in intellectual property was just about zero. It's now about zero plus one or two."

Ross Davies

## YOUR OWN BUSINESS

# Village shops look to the giants for help

By Derek Harris  
shops has recently been strengthened to eight. He estimates that 6,000 of these are likely to go to the wall within five years unless something is done to help them.

He said: "If the right skill and expertise can be injected, half of those under threat could be saved to the point where at least they would be breaking even."

Cosira research suggests that the typical village shop with a turnover of £60,000 a year is barely producing a net profit.

Initial discussions between Cosira and the Retail Consortium were held this week and the Consortium's Food Policy Committee has agreed to consider detailed plans to be drawn up by Cosira.

The committee's chairman, Mr Terence Spratt, chairman managing director of Safeway Food Stores, said:

"Small shops can survive even when there is a big supermarket nearby provided they go for specialist areas of goods and the sort of personal service which the big multiples by their very nature cannot give in the same way."

## £12m for new enterprise

By Wayne Linton

Merchant bankers Guinness Mahon in partnership with a specialist company, Venture Founders, that provides high-risk capital for small businesses and pure start-ups, are making £12m available for new schemes, new companies or small businesses seeking to expand.

The Guinness Mahon Venture Founders Fund already has £3m committed and is seeking to raise a further £4m. The sources of capital are mainly local authority and corporate pension funds backed up by insurance company money.

The new fund has found a

Lack of expertise in the village shop is probably the biggest single problem, he suggested.

This has been Cosira's experience because although it has limited financial resources its counselling service has been rescuing shops in difficulties. Refitting and reorganization, particularly in developing specialist lines like delicatessen, and adding services like newspaper sales, have increased turnover by 20 per cent or more.

The Co-operative Union, umbrella body for the co-operative retail societies, aware of the social aspects of keeping retail outlets open in small communities, already where possible keep open such small Co-ops even if they only break even or run at a slight loss.

Cosira hopes soon to set up a series of training seminars around the country for those about to take on village shops. Many people take on businesses with insufficient capital and little awareness of the practical implications like the low profit margins, the long hours and the need for strict administrative discipline to cope with matters like Value Added Tax returns and the control of the product ranges.

Another idea being explored by Mr White is the setting up of an investment fund which through loans or grants could help shops judged to be socially necessary. Typically a shopkeeper could be helped to install modern cash tills and other equipment such as till cabinets.

There have already been some attempts to help small shops on these lines. Northumberland County Council has been running a grant scheme in rural areas which has enabled shopkeepers to buy equipment.

● Contact: Cosira, 141 Castle Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 3TP; telephone (0722) 336755.

■ A one-day conference to investigate the problems facing

the Co-operative Development Agency, with a life extended by the Government for six years to continue promoting industrial and other co-operatives, has gained new powers to raise money from the sector. Eventually it could mean grants and loans for co-operatives. *Derek Harris writes.*

The most immediate expansion of the agency's work will be in at least doubling the number of executives seconded from established companies to act as counsellors to co-operatives, especially those newly-forming. Mr George Jones, the agency's director, has already seen the number of co-operatives jump by a half in the past 12 months, with the agency involved in rather more than a half of them.

Government funding of the agency will be running at £200,000 a year but Mr Jones hopes to increase this by as much again by tapping EEC sources and private sector industry and commerce. Companies have continued to pay executive's salaries when they are seconded to agency work for a period.

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## Drought boosts Borthwick profits

By Vivien Goldsmith

Thomas Borthwick & Sons  
Year to 2.10.1983  
Profits £3.6m (£358,000)  
Sales £27.27m (loss 1.76p)  
Turnover £23.8m (£35.2m)  
Net final dividend 0.01p  
Share price 25p Yield 0.057

Thomas Borthwick & Sons which processes meat and retails it through its Matthews chain of butchers has continued its climb from dismal losses and reported pretax profits 10 times higher than this time last year, at £3.8m.

But as the company predicted when it announced half time profits of £3.09m for the six months to April, the vast bulk of these profits were earned at the beginning of the year. This was due to the disastrous drought in Australia and New Zealand which caused farmers to send cattle for slaughter because of a shortage of food. Now the volume of business is depressed.

Mr Brian Lund, the financial director, said the second half figures were better than he had expected. The Australian division made a slight profit over the last eight years, but spent on research and development, both internally and externally, he claims the cost per head of business to 10.61 pence, up 10 times higher than this time last year, at £3.8m.

A nominal dividend of 0.01p is being paid to retain eligibility for investment by trustees.

Beef trading from New Zealand made profits which offset the earlier losses made on old season's lamb.

Midland Cattle Products, which makes suet, lard and dripping, returned to profit as did the bakery division. Overall turnover was marginally higher at £539.85m as opposed to £536.23m last year. The shares were unchanged at 25p.

## Anciente Union Minera (in liquidation)

Registered office: 70, 4th Floor, Chancery Lane, London EC4A 1JL. Directors' Register No. 13277.

## NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS

The shareholders are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting which will take place on Thursday, 10 December, 1983, at 10.30 a.m. at the Shoreditch Committee Room, Bow Street, EC1.

AGENDA

1. Report of the Directors  
2. Progress of the liquidation procedure at 31 October, 1983.  
3. Resolution to the liquidation procedure has not been closed.  
An order to the court in this general resolution that shareholders can receive shares, letters or notices, documents or communications addressed to the following address: Mr Justice Kerridge, The Queen's Bench, Strand, London WC2B 4EP. Thursday, 10 December, 1983.  
Any shareholder who wishes to make written representations to the Directors, Directors' Agents, or any of their replacement officers or representatives, or to the liquidator, should do so in writing to the liquidator, Mr Justice Kerridge, The Queen's Bench, Strand, London WC2B 4EP. The liquidator will be entitled to receive such representations from the company's registered office and from the shareholders' agents.

The liquidator,  
The Queen's Bench, Strand, London WC2B 4EP.

## Channel 4 losses cannot go on, warns LWT chief

By Jeremy Warner

The losses of Channel 4 television cannot be allowed to continue for much longer, Mr John Freeman, the outgoing chairman of London Weekend Television, has warned in a strongly worded critique of the effects of the new channel of independent television finances.

Writing in the parent company's annual report, sent to shareholders yesterday, Mr Freeman said: "The present bleeding of ITV through Channel 4 cannot be allowed to flow unopposed for very long. I hope that advertisers and Channel 4 itself will jointly provide the remedy and that it will not become necessary for the Independent Broadcasting

Authority to apply the tourniquet." It was recently confirmed that the 15 independent television companies will have to pay an additional £20m to cover the costs of the new channel next year. This is on top of this year's £123m plus £2m of interest.

Given the current recovery in advertising revenue, Channel 4 is a burden that can just about be supported. But the companies are increasingly being handicapped by a growing drain on their resources which is outside their control, Mr Freeman said.

Mr Freeman is just one of a growing number of executives

in independent television to criticize the current Channel 4 set-up — under which the companies fund the venture but have no say in its day-to-day management. But he is the first to warn so explicitly that it may not be tolerated for very much longer.

His criticism of the channel also runs deeper than most. He warns that the hope that Channel 4 will establish audience loyalty within the year is still only a hope and that it would prove a dubious gain if catering for minorities on Channel 4 could in the long term be achieved only at the expense of the vast majority of main ITV channel viewers.

## SE ruling may hit Americans

By Michael Prest

The Government will introduce next spring an order empowering it to implement harmonization of British Stock Exchange rules and listing requirements with the Commission's minimum criteria. So far, the process has taken nine years. Ironically, foreign companies are more

deemed to meet most of London's listing requirements.

Since many of the directives

are already standard practice in London, little should change for British companies. But it would be different for American companies. Those listed on either the New York or American Stock Exchange are now

likely to be affected than British.

deemed to meet most of London's listing requirements.

To be officially dealt in here, they need not issue a prospectus. A London listing is therefore cheap.

If an American company had

to prepare a prospectus and other paperwork the Commission wants, listing would become more costly.

## Mexico to sell back companies

Mexico City (Reuter) — The Mexican Government, which last year nationalized banks and their subsidiaries, will soon begin selling 400 bank-owned companies back to the private sector. Senior Jesus Silva Herzog, the Finance Minister,

said yesterday.

In September, 1982, the state took over the entire banking system to stop the flight of capital as it implemented an urgent austerity programme to combat a crippling foreign debt of \$85bn (£58bn).

In an apparent attempt to dispel fears among businessmen that the government was moving towards a state-run economy, Senior Silva Herzog stressed that the cabinet had never intended to retain control of the 400 companies.

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## Base Lending Rates

ARN Bank 9%  
Barclays 9%  
BCCI 9%  
CitiBank Savings 10.10%  
Consolidated Crds 9%  
Continental Trust 9%  
C. Hoare & Co 9%  
Lloyds Bank 9%  
Midland Bank 9%  
Nat Westminster 9%  
TSB 9%  
Williams & Glyn's 9%

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# Gold calls for random drugs tests on all Britons of Olympic potential

By David Miller

Arthur Gold, the president of the European Athletic Union and chairman of the Sports Council drugs abuse advisory group, yesterday called for voluntary action by all 26 Olympic sports in Britain to eliminate the possible involvement of any British competitor in Los Angeles who has resorted to drugs.

At the CCPR annual conference at Bournemouth, it was suggested that every sport should submit their international and near international competitors to random testing without warning of time, place, or person, and that the Sports Council would underwrite the cost of this expensive project. Mr Gold further suggested that it would be appropriate if any competitor who refused voluntary testing were as a consequence not selected for the Games.

The British Olympic Association has already suggested to the International Olympic Committee a similar procedure: that voluntary testing should be written into the eligibility clause of rule 26. It was agreed at yesterday's conference that such a move within Britain might well for the moment reduce the medal prospects compared with other countries.

Mike Winch, the international shot putter, research scientist and treasurer of the International Athletes Club, made an impassioned plea for more severe action by the authorities on drugs, the use of which, he claimed, was accelerating and becoming increasingly dangerous.

He alleges that many more substances are used in 10 years ago, including the hormone growth hormone, Somatotropin, which can produce, in excessive doses, the phenomenon of acromegaly, the unnatural enlargement of bones such as the jaw. Winch is adamant that the authorities could have acted six years ago to prevent the now widespread use of the male hormone, Testosterone, which has to a great extent replaced steroids and is more



Gold: voluntary action needed.

difficult to detect because of its natural instance in both men and women. He further alleged that those taking drugs are now able to "blind" the scientists by the taking of secondary substances which will counterbalance the presence of what is illegal under test conditions.

Winch stated that because drug takers in some countries were several years ahead of the drugs testers, the ability to win medals was now to some extent dominated by the quality of medical back up which those countries could give.

This view was corroborated by Wally Holland, a weightlifter, who said that he had been told by an Eastern European official that the British competitors would always be in more danger if they took drugs, because they would be doing it individually and without guidance, possibly not even knowing exactly what they were taking where as Eastern Europeans were "carefully flushed" to eliminate evidence before they competed.

Robert Stinson, who put through proposals for British athletics at the recent

European meeting in Madrid, and will repeat them in the agenda for next month's International Amateur Athletic Federation meeting in Manila, says that he believes the Eastern Europeans are in a mood to accept more severe legislation if only there would be stronger action in America, where up to now there has been no drug taking at all.

Arthur Gold said that the sports ministers of Western Europe had recommended that Government grant aid should be withheld from any sport which refused the testing, while Charles Palmer, the chairman of the BOA, speaking on behalf of judo, said that an effective lift ban was necessary for competitors found positive, never mind how much it might jeopardise subsequent professional earnings.

In a subsequent debate on the prospects for cable television starting next year, both Bill Cotton, managing director of BBC development services and John Bromley, of London Weekend Television, cast doubt on the ability of cable TV to produce 34 hours a week of exclusive sports television of a quality sufficient to persuade an audience of under half a million in the first year to pay, and even more the inclination of sponsors to take a serious interest.

Barrie Gill of Cable Sports and Leisure and Bob Kennedy of Screen Sport had put a strong case for cable TV being able to expand on the necessary limited coverage at present of the four broadcasting channels.

Kennedy made the valid point that cable TV would be screened "for sports' sake, not television's sake". Cotton foresaw substantial difficulties in eight to ten years time when cable would possibly have a significant audience to make a realistic challenge financially for the events at present "protected" for the public broadcasters, such as the FA Cup Final and Wimbledon tennis.

## BOXING: COUNTDOWN TO WBC HEAVYWEIGHT CONTEST

### Holmes belittles Frazier's chances

**LAS VEGAS.** (AP) — Larry Holmes has told Mike Frazier that he will defend his World Boxing Council heavyweight title before Frazier's bout if he loses to him tonight. But Holmes also told Frazier at a news conference: "I wouldn't want it (the belt) if I were you. The WBC doesn't recognize you."

This was a dig at the WBC, which has refused to sanction the scheduled 12-round bout at Caesars Palace as a title contest because Frazier is not a top 10-ranked contender. However, if Holmes loses, the title would be declared vacant. "I will if Marvis Frazier beats me," consider Marvis Frazier his champion, Holmes said.

Murad Muhammad, who, with Bob Androli, is promoting the bout

denied a rumour that Jose Sulaiman, the WBC president, had told him that if the promoter Don King was given an option for a Frazier bout, tonight's contest fight would be sanctioned. But Muhammad added: "I strongly believe that if Don King had the rights to this fight, it would be recognized as a championship."

"I've done all my homework," Frazier said. He is managed and trained by his father, Joe, the former heavyweight champion. The elder Frazier used Holmes as a sparring partner when he was preparing for his second bout against Muhammad Ali in 1974. "Every time I got the report card I get an A's," Marvis said. Referring to criticism that he is

not ready for a boxer of Holmes's experience, "I'm ready."

"I want to say to Marvis Frazier I'm ready too," Holmes. "I didn't get to where I'm at without being ready. I'm not taking him lightly."

However, Holmes feels Frazier is

not ready for him. "There's nothing you can do to me that hasn't been done," Holmes told Frazier. "I've been knocked down, been hit low. But there are a lot of things I can do to you that you've never had done before. You're going to see a lot of things coming at you, you never saw coming at you before."

The bout is scheduled to start at two o'clock in the morning.

• The undisputed world lightweight champion, Michael

Spink of the United States, defends his title for the first time against Oscar Rivandeneira of Peru at Vancouver today. In his first bout since he captured the title, the undefeated Spink meets a boxer who also has a perfect record.

The 27-year-old champion took the title from his compatriot Dwight Braxton by a unanimous decision over 15 rounds in Atlantic City, New Jersey in March, and has won all his 23 bouts since turning professional at 16 by knockout.

• Don Corry will defend his World Boxing Association welterweight title against fellow American, Marlow Starling, in Hartford on February 4, the promoter Bob Arum said.

## Germans praise their 'guests'

By Stuart Jones  
Football Correspondent

England's three Uefa Cup representatives may have been left out in the cold on Wednesday night but the police warned to the behaviour of their supporters for a change. None more so than in West Germany, where a spokesman described Tottenham Hotspur's followers as "exemplary, the sort of guests we would always like to have here".

Tottenham, who were fined £8,000 after the ugly brawls at Feyenoord at the beginning of the month, will be cheered by his opinion. Yet the Germans, unlike the Dutch, it would seem, were prepared as efficiently as usual. To watch over some 400 visiting supporters, they had 500 Munich policemen on duty.

Crown trouble did occur at the ground of Nottingham Forest, whose fans against Celtic was held up when spectators spilled onto the pitch. Forgetting that they might suffer the same excessive punishment that was imposed on Tottenham, were quick to give a full explanation to the Uefa observer before he flew home to Finland yesterday.

The club's statement claimed that the incident started when a Celtic supporter, suffering from a gashed head after a fall, was brought by his friends to the front of a packed stand. As an emergency pack was opened to allow the youth to be treated, so a Celtic attack caused their supporters to surge down the terraces towards the gap.

Some spectators, after sustaining twisted ankles and bruises, were allowed on to the terraces but Ken Smale, Forest's secretary, insisted there were "no major casualties".

He added that there was no evidence to suggest that anybody needed mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, as had been reported, or that a crash barrier had collapsed. After inspecting the ground yesterday the police confirmed that there was no structural damage.

The most serious incident during the first legs of the third round occurred in Leans. A slow-motion television replay showed that fire

## FOOTBALL



A case for the French riot police as Anderlecht supporters react violently to the late equalizer by Lens.

crackers and small stones were thrown at Muneron. Anderlecht's

goalkeeper. He gathered a small collection of missiles, including bottles, and took them back to the dressing room in case Uefa required some evidence.

The match ended with a bizarre

twist. Anderlecht were leading 1-0 with two minutes left when Muneron bent to collect his ball. A stone, fired from the crowd, caused the ball to veer gently off his boot and bounce off Muneron's left foot into the net.

When the Anderlecht players and supporters protested vehemently, the referee was forced to deal with the reactions on the pitch, and the riot police had to deal with those off it. The Belgians should still claim a place in the quarter final draw on December 9.

By then England may have lost all three of their representatives. Although Tottenham, Forest and Warford are all capable of rising to the big occasion, there are flaws in each of the cases they will present in a fortnight. The men who exposed them were all managers and they should know.

Brian Clough admitted that his Forest side were held to a goalless draw at home by a "better team". He would be touching the heights of optimism if he expects the difference in ability to be less emphatic in the roasting fires of Celtic Park.

The same night Watford will step into a refrigerator in Prague and Graham Taylor conceded once again that his young players were too inexperienced to cope with

## Dagless expected to find right formula

By Paul Newman

Mike Dagless, a former Blyth Spartans player, has become the Northern League champions' third manager in little more than a year. He replaces John Connolly, who has returned to Gateshead, the Alliance Premier League club, as a player.

Dagless, who left Blyth three years ago, returned as coach last month after a spell at Whitley Bay. He steps into one of the most demanding jobs in non-League football, for Blyth dominate the game in the North-East to such an extent that they are expected not only to win trophies, but to do so in style. Blyth have won the Northern League championship for years in succession but 12 months ago, Bob Ellwell was dismissed as manager because it was felt he had been encouraging "negative football".

"In the opinion of City Council, any participating authorities would need to have considerable involvement in the financial management of the club's affairs, if some form of assistance can be worked out,"

• Don Revie, criticized for his desertion of the England manager's job five years ago, has admitted: "I did it totally wrong", in an interview with BBC Radio Sport. The former Leeds manager, back in Britain after his spell in the Middle East, said he would like to get back into English soccer.

• Ed Smith, one of the presidents of 1978: "I left England where I shouldn't have done. There were two World Cup matches to go and I did it totally wrong. I got a lot of bad press and I think I deserved it at that time."

• Brentford have signed Andy Rollings, the former Swindon, Brighton and Portsmouth centre-half, on a month's trial. He is in their squad for Saturday's home game with Bradford City.

Brentford will now stage their Third division game against Wimbledon at Griffin Park on Christmas Eve (kick off 3 pm). The game originally arranged for Boxing Day, was brought forward to Christmas Day following protests from supporters, both clubs agreed to move the match back a day.

• Luton Town's directors have named their price for selling out to the local businessmen who want to keep the club in the town. In their first meeting with the consortium, the directors — who want the club to move to Milton Keynes — asked £2.74 million for their personal shares, which cost them £80,000.

The Second division club hopes a consortium will step in to buy the

club.

• Tommey Meekin, Frickley Athlete's goalkeeper, will be out of action until early next year, after suffering injuries in a collision as he tried to prevent Afridi Town's winning goal in the fifth round of the FA Cup on Saturday. Meekin, who had not made a match for more than two sessions, sustained a fractured cheekbone, which will require an operation, two broken bones in a wrist, and a head wound that required seven stitches.

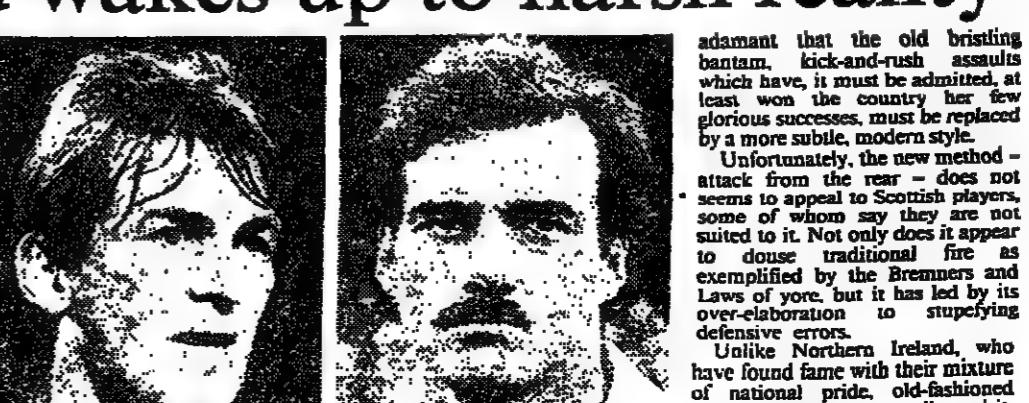
• The Athenian League will wind up at the end of this season, after 71 years. It will be replaced by the Istrian League.

Clubs in both competitions were told the news at meetings last night.

The Istrian is to become the top of a "pyramid", with automatic relegation to and promotion from four feeder competitions — the Combined Counties, Essex Senior, London Spartan and South Midland leagues. Athenian League clubs with adequate facilities will be invited to join the Istrian, and the rest will be absorbed into the feeder leagues.

## Supporters lose sight of that glorious rainbow

### Scotland wakes up to harsh reality



Men with broad shoulders: Dalglish (left) and Miller.

Few tartan-tammed football supporters are likely to be trampled in an early stampede for tickets when Scotland discover which countries will provide the opposition in the qualifying groups for the World Cup in Mexico.

The draw is to be made on December 7, but on this occasion it looks like a thunderclap, not a soft, happy rain, in the form of a rainbow radiating hopes in the hearts of the most fervent football fans in the world, of global glory for the bravest, biggest-hearted wee soccer country of them all.

The crock of gold at the bottom of

the rainbow has still to be found, and once again the nation to whom football is a religion is drenched in a deluge of tears, even though the World Cup, which has been its modern crusade, is not the fury, the bitter anger directed at the manager, Ally MacLeod, and his players, which followed the humiliation in Argentina in 1978.

Nevertheless, the melancholy is deeper, because realization has at last set in that this country has no divine right to football greatness.

Following the dismal failure in the European Championship, which saw Scotland being handed the mythical wooden spoon from a qualifying section in which all three of the away ties were lost and only one victory gained at home, Scotland's standing has seldom been lower.

What dampens the spirit of most

is the knowledge that Scotland are not occupying a better rung on the world ranking ladder of the lunatic scale.

Indeed, the country which had given the game of football to the world is still unassimilated, still playing the best players and still playing in the only possible style.

Lessons had been assimilated since the debacle of Argentina, blueprints evolved and a real attempt made to compete with the

adamant that the old bristling bantam, kick-and-rush assault, which have, it must be admitted, at least won some countries their glorious successes, must be replaced by a more subtle, modern style.

Unfortunately, the new method — attack from the rear — does not seem to appeal to Scottish players, some of whom say they are not suited to it. Not only does it appear to doze traditional fire as exemplified by the Bremers and Laws of yore, but it has led by its over-elaboration to stupendous defensive errors.

Until Northern Ireland, who have found fame with their mixture of national pride, old-fashioned raiding and never-say-die spirit, Scottish players do not often form the perfect blend.

Most Scottish supporters want a return to the Irish way for Scotland, but it won't do. Thrilling moves of wild abandon may win a World Cup skirmish; these will not win a World Cup rightly pointed out, win a World Cup.

The final test for Scotland's present unhappy position is that the happy medium still to be found.

For instance, after the extravagances, the *bragadocio* of Argentina,

Stein had to ensure that Scotland kept a lower profile. Perhaps the serum he has injected has eroded the natural exuberance of many would-be Maclays and Johnstones and Baxters.

Now it appears as though the manager will have to try to brighten, to inspire, if not on MacLeod lines, at least without the sombre preaching of a Covenanter minister.

If he makes this his aim, and if he evolves a style more robust and more rousing, even if still laced with the elegance and patience total football calls for, in the way of Aberdeen, or even of his own Celtic Continent.

Stalin believes it is his job to guide Scotland to total, not merely partial World Cup glory. That is why he is

Hugh Taylor

## FOR THE RECORD

### BASKETBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Bolton 78 (McKee 30), Leicester 82 (Fayton 35); Hemel Hempstead 82 (Kinsella 37); Doncaster 87 (Munro 37).

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Cleveland Cavaliers 10, Washington Bullets 98; Detroit Pistons 118, Golden State Warriors 105; Milwaukee Bucks 112, Los Angeles Lakers 98; Denver Nuggets 101, Phoenix Suns 108; New Jersey Nets 110, Phoenix Suns 108; Georgia Super Sons 106, Los Angeles Lakers 92; Chicago Bulls 128, Utah Jazz 117.

BOXING

ATLANTIC CITY: Light heavyweight: Mike Rossman (US) vs H Sims (US), 15 round.

FOOTBALL

SPANISH CUP: Third round, second leg: Atletico Madrid 3, Real Valladolid 2 (3-3); Oviedo 1, Real Madrid 2, Real Sociedad 1.

PRESTON CORAL PARK CHAMPIONSHIP: Second round: White Rose 2, Preston 1.

CENTRAL LEAGUE: Birmingham City 1, Coventry City 0.

COLCHESTER UNITED: Colchester United 1, Stevenage 0.

SKATING



## GOLF

# Bob Hope Classic falls into an irredeemable bunker of its own making

By John Hennessy, Golf Correspondent

The Bob Hope Classic, which has been held at Moor Park for the last four seasons, has been cancelled. Yesterday's announcement will be received with mixed emotions. Professional golfers loathed it, although it offered them valuable prize-money; a rubber-necking public, turning up in ever-increasing numbers, lapped it up; and the main beneficiary, the Stars Organisation for Spastics (SOS), came to rely on it as an important source of income.

The tournament has founded on the miscalculation of the costs when it was inaugurated with a presidential flourish from across the Atlantic in 1980. For the first two years the losses climbed to £500,000 and, although the last two years have provided a profit, the possibility of an early writing-off of the debts was remote.

John Spurling, the organizer of the tournament, attributes the collapse to the adverse publicity he had been receiving.

"People have responded to this publicity," he said. "And although this is not true, they feel we have been ripping off the tournament. Unfortunately, there is no action we can take about innuendo."

Mr Spurling, whose other business interests lie in advertising, property and mail order, estimated his personal losses at between £150,000 and £200,000.

The tournament certainly received some hostile publicity,

partly on the tiny amount for charity that emerged from the mountain of commercial endeavour. The SOS payments, welcome though they no doubt were, were tiny fractions of the budget. This year the tournament cost £900,000 to promote, bringing not only Bob Hope and former President Gerald Ford, with an army of security men, to this country, but also such celebrities as Telly Savalas and James Garner and some whose reputation lay behind them in the United States.

Ken Schofield, secretary of the PGA European Tour, seemed undismayed by yesterday's announcement. "It is virtually certain that the Classic will be replaced on the calendar," he said. "We do not expect this to be a blank week in September".

But one way and another, Mr Schofield is earning his salary as the main provider of sponsors for the tour, since he must find someone to underwrite the Masters, now that Silk Cut, who replaced Dunlop with such apparent enthusiasm earlier in the year, have dropped out after a single season.

There is good news on the other hand (except within the Royal College of Physicians) that the Benson and Hedges Tournament, which comes under the same aegis as Silk Cut, will probably survive. Gallaher's, the tobacco company concerned, have come round to accepting a clash next year with the United States PGA championships and the certain defection of Severiano Ballesteros, Nick Faldo and maybe one or two others. "But we would not wish that to happen again," an announcement is expected on Monday.

Mr Spurling maintains that his main supporters had not deserted him. Not one of the four "platinum" sponsors - the Daily Express, Cathay Pacific, Wheatbix and Atari this year - had declared a wish to withdraw. They contributed about £120,000 between them this year, in exchange for which they each received one day in the television limelight.

Sheila Rawstorne, the administrator of SOS, was "very, very sad" to receive the news



Holmes striving for fitness

## Welsh hopes pinned on Holmes's knee

By Gerald Davies

Terry Holmes went back to hospital this week for what must surely be his last attempt to get fit for this season. It is almost six months since the Lions played the first international of their tour against the All Blacks in Christchurch where a seemingly innocuous incident forced Holmes to retire from the game and subsequently end the tour. Jumping and stretching to take a ball at the end of a lineout, Holmes landed and twisted his knee so awkwardly that the ligaments surrounding the joint and the capsule at the back were ruptured. An operation has not been considered necessary although he has been under medical supervision since the incident on June 4.

Although he has been training for quite some time there is still fluid on the knee and movement remains unstable. The purpose of his 48-hour stay at Rhydalarach hospital near Cardiff this week was to elevate the knee in the hope that the fluid would drain away. Holmes had originally intended to play a couple of weeks ago but decided that

it is doubtful whether any one player in recent years has had the joy, not so much to victory, but to lifting sagging morale.

The current Welsh players, Holmes alone can give an identity to a team which, at the moment, is faceless and ordinary. Without his presence and commitment, it remains anonymous. The Welsh supporters, with a dearth of talent and experience in the national squad, are forced to recognize that any change of fortune depends uniquely on the fitness of one man.

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# Top earnings up 10 times faster than average pay

The real take-home pay of Britain's big earners has grown 10 times as fast as that of the average worker, according to figures from the treasury yesterday.

A married man with two children earning £80,000 a year has seen his real take-home pay grow by 54 per cent since 1978/9, while a similar man on average earnings of about £28,000 has received a boost of just 5.7 per cent.

For a single man, the gap is even wider. The £80,000-a-year earner has received a 57.9 per cent real increase, compared with 5.4 per cent for the average earner.

The figures take account of tax, National Insurance deductions, and increases in prices and earnings in the last six years. They illustrate that, while almost every earner has received a boost to real take-home pay, the increase has been far greater for high earners.

For a married man with two children, the increase over the six years has been 4.8 per cent for those earning two thirds of average earnings, 5.7 per cent for those on average earnings, 22 per cent for those on five times the average, and 53.9 per cent for those on 10 times the average.

The figures are contained in a written Commons reply from the Treasury, to a question from

Mr Jeff Rookes, Labour MP for Birmingham Perry Barr.

The main reason why the higher earners have done so well is a dramatic drop in the tax burden on them, the result of the first main budget by the then Chancellor, Sir Geoffrey Howe.

A married man with two children and earning two thirds of the national average saw taxes and other deductions take 12 per cent of gross income in 1978-79. In the present tax year he will pay 14.2 per cent.

The same family man on average earnings of about £8,000 a year paid 21.2 per cent in taxes in 1978-79 but now pays 22.5 per cent. By contrast those on above average earnings have seen their tax bills drop.

A similar family man earning about £40,000 a year – five times the national average – had tax deductions amounting to 49.2 per cent in 1978-79. This was down to 42.3 per cent in 1983-84. And a man on 10 times the average (£80,000) has seen his tax bill fall from 65.9 per cent to 51.2 per cent in six years.

Mr Rooker said yesterday: "These figures confirm that the massive increase in taxation, including national insurance under this Government has fallen on wage earners on average earnings and less,

Continued from page 1

He says that the invitation has gone to all constitutional parties, whether they are taking part in the Assembly or not, and that it is not tied to involvement with the Assembly.

He says: "It is separate from that, it is a necessary step given the circumstances of the last few days."

Mr Prior makes clear that Sir John Hermon, the chief constable, and Lieutenant-General Sir Robert Richardson, the GOC, Northern Ireland, would attend the talks.

Mr Molyneux described Mr Prior's invitation as a move in the right direction, although he made clear that there was unlikely to be early reconsideration of the decision to boycott the Assembly.

The attendance of the chief constable and the GOC would be an advance.

Letters, page 15

## All-party talks offered on Ulster security

Continued from page 1

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## Andropov hits back with sea missiles threat

Continued from page 1

people and the whole of mankind".

Diplomats said clarification of Soviet counter-measures could be expected after a meeting of Warsaw pact defence ministers in Sofia, in the second half of December. The meeting was announced yesterday.

● SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA: President Reagan expressed dismay yesterday at Mr Andropov's statement (AFP reports). "We can only be dismayed at this Soviet statement," the President said.

"It is as sharp variance with the stated wish of the Soviet Union that an agreement be negotiated. We are determined to renew our efforts to entirely do away with the land-based intermediate range nuclear missile systems. We continue to seek negotiations in good faith."

Letters, page 15

# Saying it with flowers



Flower time: A garlanded Prince and Princess of Wales at the Waltham Forest Asian centre, Walthamstow, east London, which they opened yesterday. Below, young dancers offer trays of flowers.



## THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

### Today's events

#### Royal engagements

The Prince of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, the 2nd (Cheshire) Regiment and the Royal Regiment of Wales (24/41st Foot) visits Headquarters, the Prince of Wales's Division at Lichfield, Staffordshire, 10.05; and later accompanied by the Princess of Wales, he opens the British Racing School at Snaithwell Road, Newmarket, Cambridgeshire, 3.15.

Princess Anne attends the

Northumberland Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs fibfest annual general meeting in Alnwick Castle, Northumberland, 5.45.

Princess Margaret, as President of the Royal Scottish Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children, attends a reception to be given by the Secretary of State for Scotland at Bute House, Edinburgh, 6.15.

The Duke of Kent, as Chairman of the National Electronics Council, attends the first residential course of the Council's "Careers in IT" Programme at the Electrical and Electronic Technicians and Plumbers

Centre, by Clive Frost and John Sims; Impressions Gallery of Photography, 7th Colleagues York; Tues to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun and Mon (ends Dec 24).

Last chance to see

Paintings by John G. Crawford at the Cornerstone Gallery, Cathedral Square, Dunblane, Central Scotland, Mon to Sat 10 to 1 & 2 to 5 (ends today).

Victorian Art Pottery, 1865 to 1920, the Ginnell Gallery, Lloyd House, 16 Lloyd Street, Manchester; Mon to Fri 9 to 5.30 (ends today).

Elysian Gardens: the history and construction of formal gardens, Falmer Art Gallery, Municipal Buildings, The Mount, Falmer, Cornwall; Mon to Fri 10 to 1 and 2 to 4 (ends today).

Exhibitions in progress

Whitworth Young Contemporaries, '83; Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester University, Whitworth Park; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thurs 10 to 9 (until Dec 17).

Concert by the Hilliard Ensemble, Blenheim Hall, School Lane, Lincoln, 7.30.

Concert by RAF Band, Colston Hall, Colston Street, Bristol, 7.30.

Concert by University Orchestral Society, Wills Memorial Building, University of Bristol, Queen's Road, Bristol, 1.15.

Concert by Scottish National Orchestra, Usher Hall, Edinburgh, 7.30.

Organ recital by Stuart Campbell, Reid Concert Hall, Edinburgh, 1.10.

Concert by Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Music Hall, Aberdeen, 7.30.

Concert by USSR State Symphony Orchestra, Royal Concert Hall, Theatre Square, Nottingham, 7.30.

Concert by the Reading Haydn Choir followed by the medieval Mass of Adam" at Christ Church, Chancery Lane, Reading, 8.

Police gets the best part, causing outcry (6).

Black upset the Spanish scholars (5).

Apart from a part? (5).

Suitable to hold a command (4).

Solutions of Puzzle No 16,295

MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM QUARRELS AND CONFLICTS TEMPER TROUBLES CLOUDS OF SUSPICION LOVE AND HATE FAIRY TALES AND STORIES FAIRIES AND FANTASY FIGURATIVE VIEWS HARM POETIC COMPOSITION (10).

Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 14

ANSWER

ANSWER</